Alice
IN THE COUNTRY OF
Clover
NIGHTMARE
STORY: QuinRose
ART: Job

LOVE IS A DREAM... OR A NIGHTMARE.

In the waking world, he's sickly and scared to speak in front of crowds. In a world filled with dangerous criminals and killers, he can't swing a sword or shoot a gun. But in dreams, Nightmare Gottschalk is smooth, mysterious, and powerful. And he will do anything it takes to win Alice's heart before someone else can come and steal her away. Romance takes on an intriguing new form in this sweet but dangerous love story between Alice the Outsider and the strange, contradictory Nightmare.

Also in this volume: bonus side stories for Alice, and a visit to the Crimson Empire!

Q: WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
RISOTTO
MADE BY GRAY.
MADE BY ALICE.
BLUSH
Didn't even consider mine.
WHAT A STUPID QUESTION! THE ONE ALICE MADE, OF COURSE!!
THEN, WHAT ABOUT THIS?
Q: WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT TO EAT?
MADE BY GRAY.
NOW, SAY, "AHH..."
MADE BY ALICE.
DO YOU REALLY WANT ME TO ANSWER THAT?
GAHH-!!
NOW HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO CHOOSE?!

OLDER TEEN (16+)

$13.99 USA
($15.99 CAN)

ISBN 978-1-626920-53-8

51399>

9 781626 920538

Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC.
www.gomanga.com
Distributed by Macmillan

...
.....
I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU RAN OFF TO, SKIPPING OUT ON WORK...
APPEARED WHEN ALICE PULLED BACK THE COVERS.
TREMBLE TREMBLE
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU WERE SLEEPING IN MY BED AGAIN...
YOU ARE SO HOPELESS
MUMBLE MUMBLE
I'M SLEEPING, SO I CAN'T DO ANY WORK.
HEY! WAKE UP, NIGHT-MARE!!
GET BACK TO WORK!!
NEVER MIND... SO...
MAYBE I SHOULD GIVE YOU THE FAIRY TALE TREATMENT.
YOU ARE AWAKE. IF YOU WERE ASLEEP, HOW COULD YOU BE TALKING TO ME?!

Impact
FRONT COVER MEETING
OKAY, SO HOW?
I THINK WE NEED TO FOCUS ON MAKING A POWERFUL IMPACT!!
SINCE WE'RE BEING PUBLISHED SO CLOSE TO ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER: MARCH HARE, IN ORDER TO DISTINGUISH OURSELVES FROM ELLIOT...
PLANS
*UNDER-WATER FILMING
TA-DA!!
I CALL IT "THE PASSIONATE DEEP SEA LOVERS ENVIED EVEN BY FISH."
はっ GASP
LIM, CAN YOU EVEN SWIM?
WELL THAT WOULD HAVE A LOT OF IMPACT
PLANS
.....
HOORAY FOR MODERN TALK-NOLOGY!!
DON'T HAVE TO. WE'LL JUST CGI OURSELVES INTO THE WATER. ★
*GREEN SCREEN
SAY CHEESE

QuinRose Box

MUMBLE
I WAS LOOKING FORWARD TO YOU WAKING ME.
POP
DON'T GO KILLING ME OFF!!
YOU'RE SO PALE AND YOUR LIPS ARE PURPLE. IT'S LESS LIKE YOU'RE SLEEPING AND MORE LIKE--
SOB
DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO STOP READING OTHER PEOPLE'S MINDS LIKE THAT?
BUT YOU WERE THINKING IT!
SO CRUEL.
I DIDN'T SAY IT.
.....
STROKE
KISS

I'M TALKING IN MY SLEEP BUT--
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
THAT'S AWFULLY CLEAR FOR SLEEP-TALKING.
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
SIGH...
BUT STILL...
DON'T YOU KNOW GRAY AND THE REST ARE LOOKING FOR YOU?
YOU'RE REALLY SO THOUGHTLESS ABOUT YOUR SUBORDINATES.
NO WONDER THEY DON'T RESPECT YOU
THE PRINCESS IS ALWAYS AWAKENED BY A PRINCE'S KISS.
!!
CREAK
TOUCH
SKIN AS WHITE AS SNOW.
...!
BUT, ON SECOND THOUGHT...
.....
STROKE
WHAT A BEAUTIFUL FACE... YOU REALLY ARE LIKE A PRINCESS.

ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER

~Nightmare~

JOB

よぶ

- STORY -

In *Alice in the Country of Clover*, the game starts with Alice having not fallen in love, but still deciding to stay in Wonderland.

She's acquainted with all the characters from the previous game, *Alice in the Country of Hearts*.

Since love would now start from a place of friendship rather than passion with a new stranger, she can experience a different type of romance from that in the previous game. Her dynamic with the characters is different through this friendship—characters can't always be forceful with her, and in many ways it's more comfortable to grow intimate. The relationships *between* the Ones With Duties have also become more of a factor.

In this game, the story focuses on the mafia. Alice attends the suited meetings (forcefully) and gets involved in various gunfights (forcefully), among other things.

Land fluctuations, sea creatures in the forest, and whispering doors—it's a game more fantastic and more eerie than the first.

Will our everywoman Alice be able to have a romantic relationship in a world devoid of common sense?

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

Alice IN THE COUNTRY OF Clover
NIGHTMARE

art by **JOB** / story by **QUINROSE**

TRANSLATION
Angela Liu

ADAPTATION
Shanti Whitesides

LETTERING AND LAYOUT
Laura Scoville

LOGO DESIGN
Courtney Williams

COVER DESIGN
Nicky Lim

PROOFREADER
Lianne Sentar
Conner Crooks

MANAGING EDITOR
Adam Arnold

PUBLISHER
Jason DeAngelis

ALICE IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER: NIGHTMARE
Copyright © Job / QuinRose 2010
First published in Japan in 2010 by ICHIJINSHA Inc., Tokyo.
English translation rights arranged with ICHIJINSHA Inc., Tokyo, Japan.

No portion of this book may be reproduced or transmitted in any form without written permission from the copyright holders. This is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locals, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

Seven Seas books may be purchased in bulk for educational, business, or promotional use. For information on bulk purchases, please contact Macmillan Corporate & Premium Sales Department at 1-800-221-7945 (ext 5442) or write specialmarkets@macmillan.com.

Seven Seas and the Seven Seas logo are trademarks of Seven Seas Entertainment, LLC. All rights reserved.

ISBN: 978-1-626920-53-8

Printed in Canada

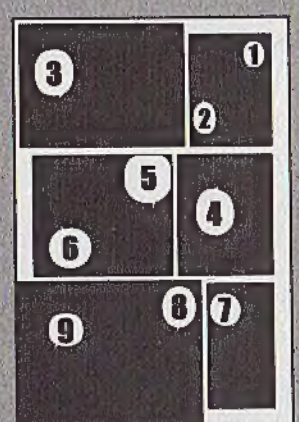
First Printing: April 2014

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

FOLLOW US ONLINE: **www.gomanga.com**

READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from ***right to left***, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at first, but you'll get the hang of it! Have fun!!



Alice in the Country of Clover
Character Information

Elliot March
VA: Tsuguo Mogami

Blood's right-hand man has a criminal past... and a temperamental present. But he's not as bad as he used to be, so that's something. Joining Blood has been good(?) for him.

Blood Dupre
VA: Kaisyuki Konishi

The head of the mafia Hatter Family, Blood is a cunning yet moody puppet-master. Alice now has the pleasure of having him for a landlord.

Alice Liddell
VA: Rie Kugimiya

A normal girl with a bit of a chip on her shoulder. Deciding to stay in the Wonderland she was carried to, she's adapted to her strange new lifestyle.

Vivaldi
VA: Yuuko Kaida

The beautiful Queen of Hearts has an unrivaled temper—which is really saying something in Wonderland. Although a picture-perfect Mad Queen, she cares for Alice as if Alice were her little sister...or a very interesting plaything.

Tweedle Dum
VA: Jun Fukuyama

The second "Bloody Twin" is equally cute and equally scary. In *Clover*, Dum can also turn into an adult.

Tweedle Dee
VA: Jun Fukuyama

One of the "Bloody Twin" gatekeepers of the Hatter territory, Dee can be cute when he's not being terrifying. In *Clover*, he sometimes turns into an adult.

Boris Airay
VA: Noriaki Sugiyama

This riddle-loving cat has a signature smirk—and in *Clover*, a new toy. One of his favorite pastimes is giving the Sleepy Mouse a hard time.

Ace
VA: Daisuke Hirakawa

The unlucky knight of Hearts was a former subordinate of Vivaldi and is perpetually lost. Even though he's depressed to be separated from his friend and boss Julius, he stays positive and tries to overcome it with a smile. He seems like a classic nice guy... or is he?

Peter White
VA: Kouki Miyata

The Prime Minister of Heart Castle—who has rabbit ears growing out of his head—invited (kidnapped) Alice to Wonderland. He loves Alice and hates everything else. His cruel, irrational actions are disturbing, but he acts like a completely different person (rabbit?) when in the throes of his love for Alice.

Gray Ringmarc
VA: Kazuya Nakai

Nightmare's subordinate in *Clover*. He used to have strong social ambition and considered assassinating Nightmare... but since Nightmare was such a useless boss, Gray couldn't help but feel sorry for him and ended up a dedicated assistant. He's a sound thinker with a strong work ethic. He's also highly skilled with his blades, rivaling even Ace.

Nightmare Gottschalk
VA: Tomokazu Sugita

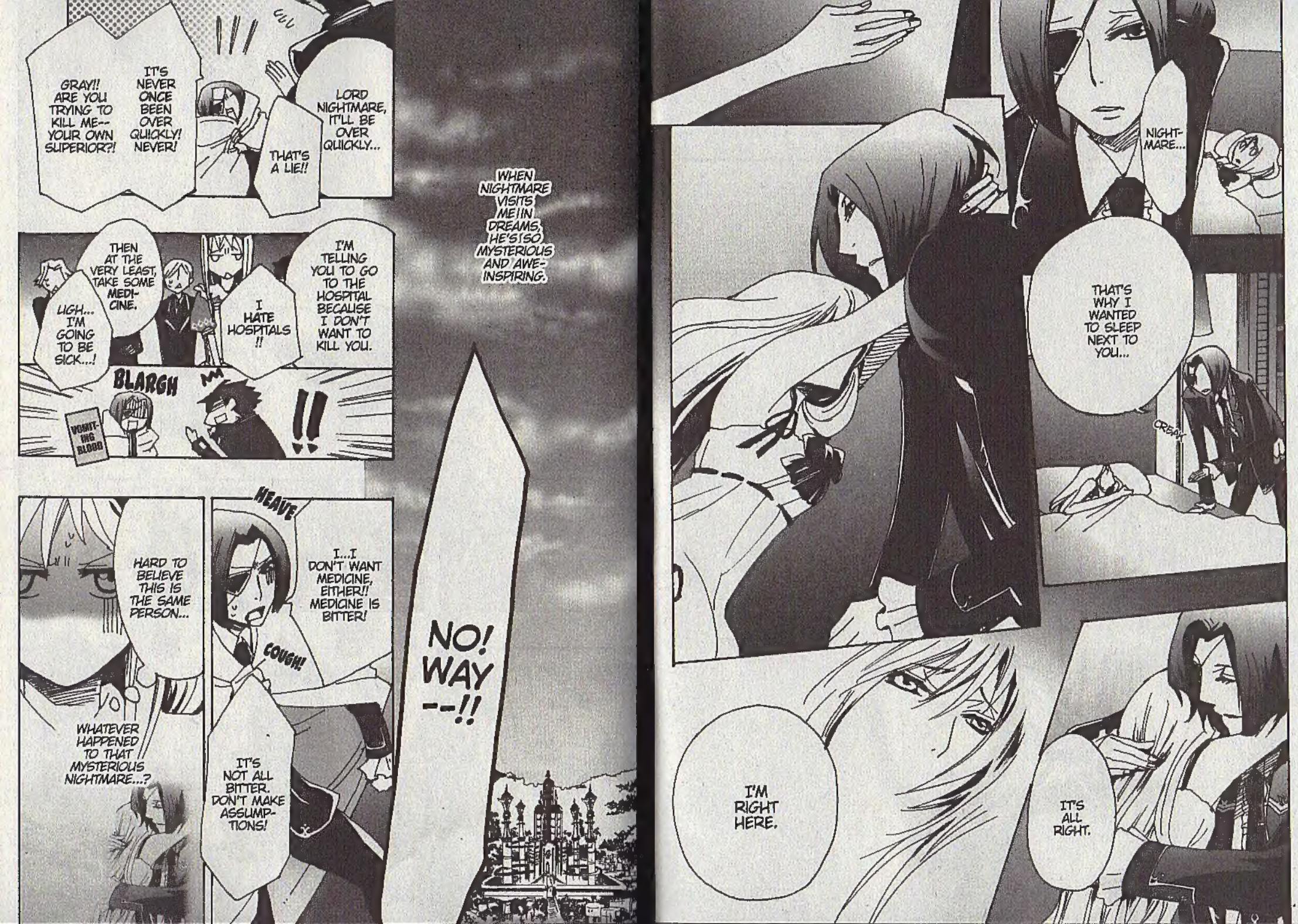
A sickly nightmare who hates the hospital and needles. He has the power to read people's thoughts and enter dreams. Even though he likes to shut himself away in dreams, Gray drags him out to soak from time to time. He technically holds a high position and has many subordinates, but since he can't even take care of his own health, he leaves most things to Gray.

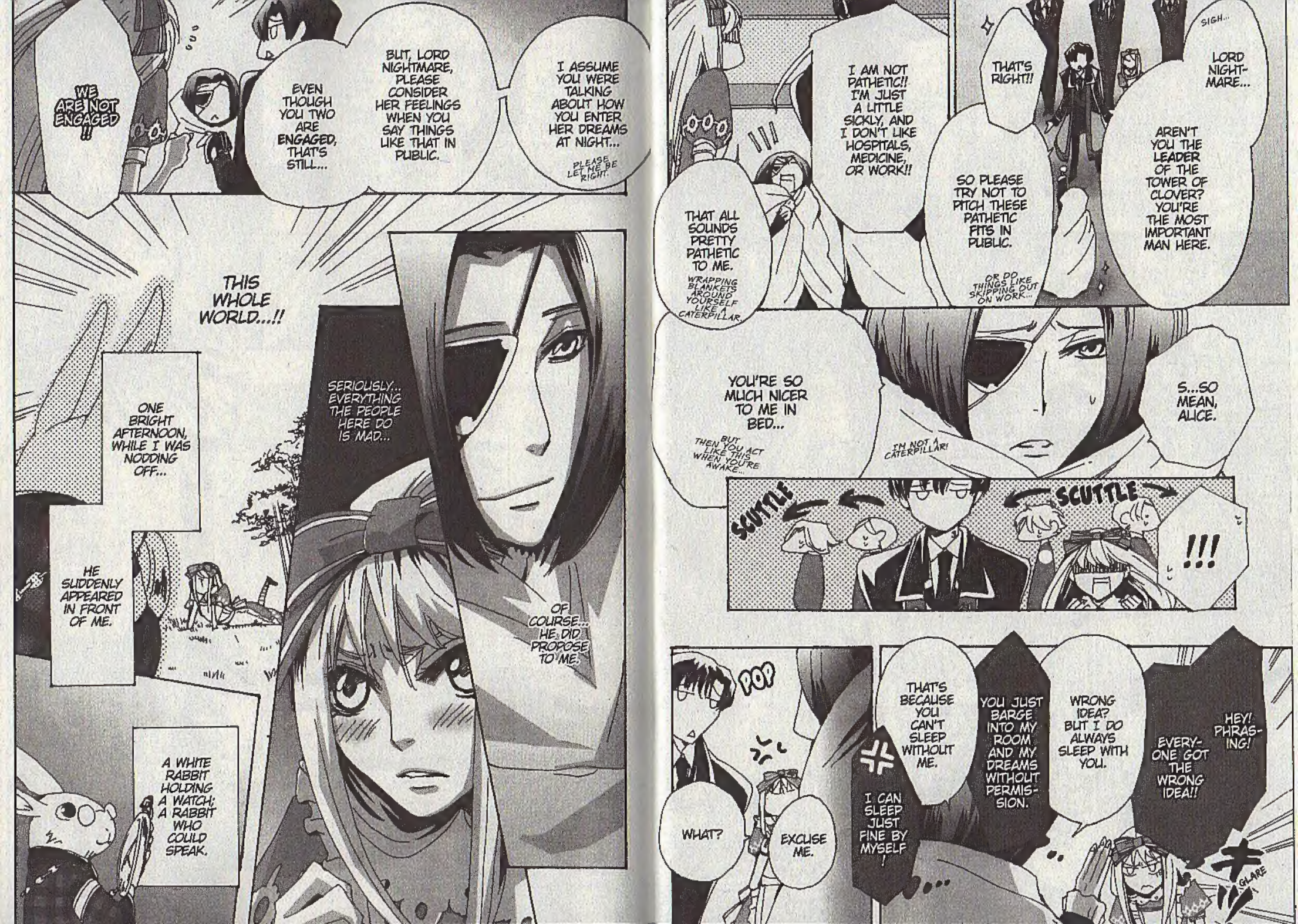
Pierce Villiers
VA: Toshichirou Hoshi

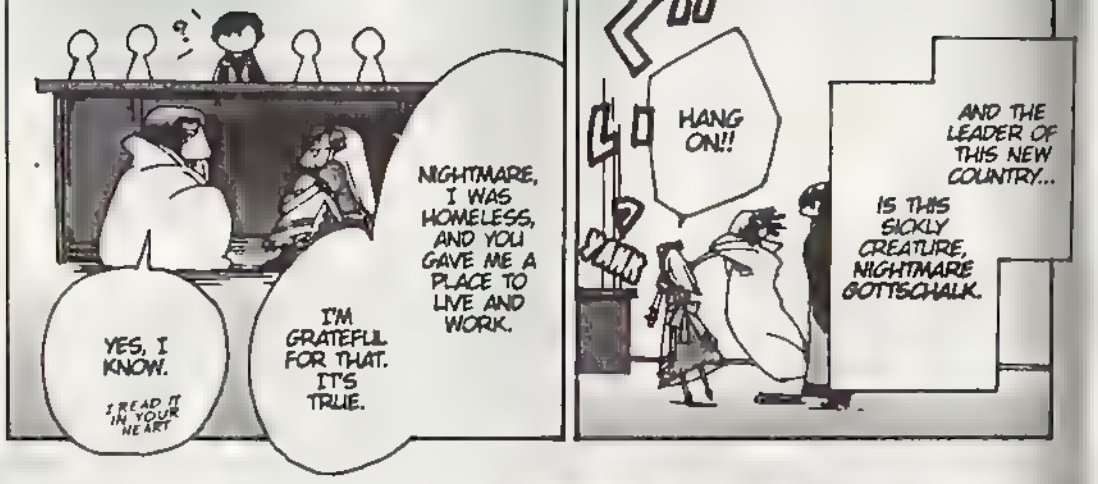
New to *Clover*, Pierce is an insomniac mouse who drinks too much coffee. He loves Nightmare (who can help him sleep) and hates Boris (who terrifies him). He dislikes Blood and Vivaldi for discarding coffee in favor of tea. He likes Elliot and Peter well enough, since rabbits aren't natural predators of mice.

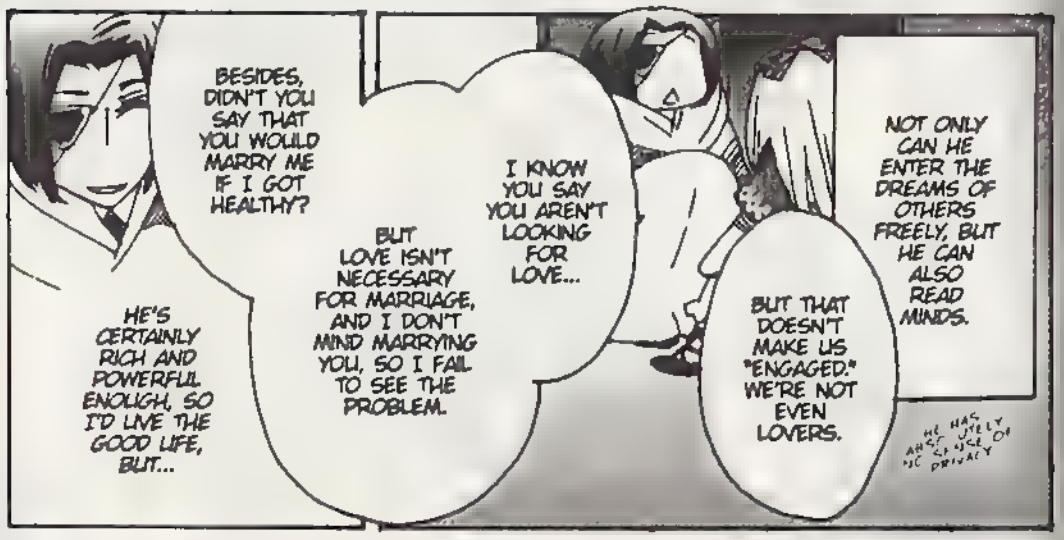
HELLO, ALICE.
TWIP
HUH ?
VERY WELL. GOODBYE.
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?! STOP IT AL...
FLOAT...
YOU ENTERED MY DREAM AGAIN WITHOUT MY PERMISSION.
NIGHT-MARE.
GASP!
NIGHT-MARE...!!
ALICE ?
HEY... WHERE ARE YOU...?
NIGHT-MARE ...?

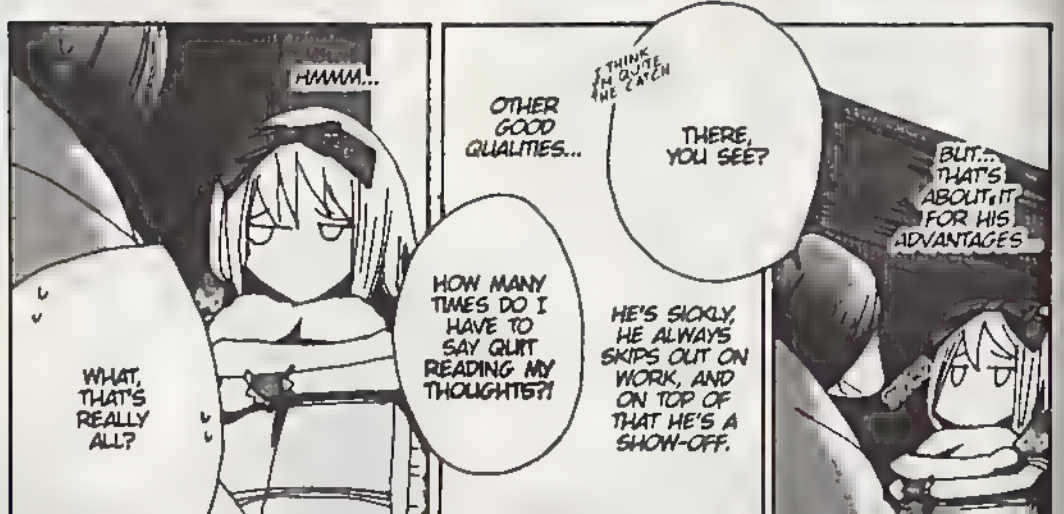
QuinRoseBox

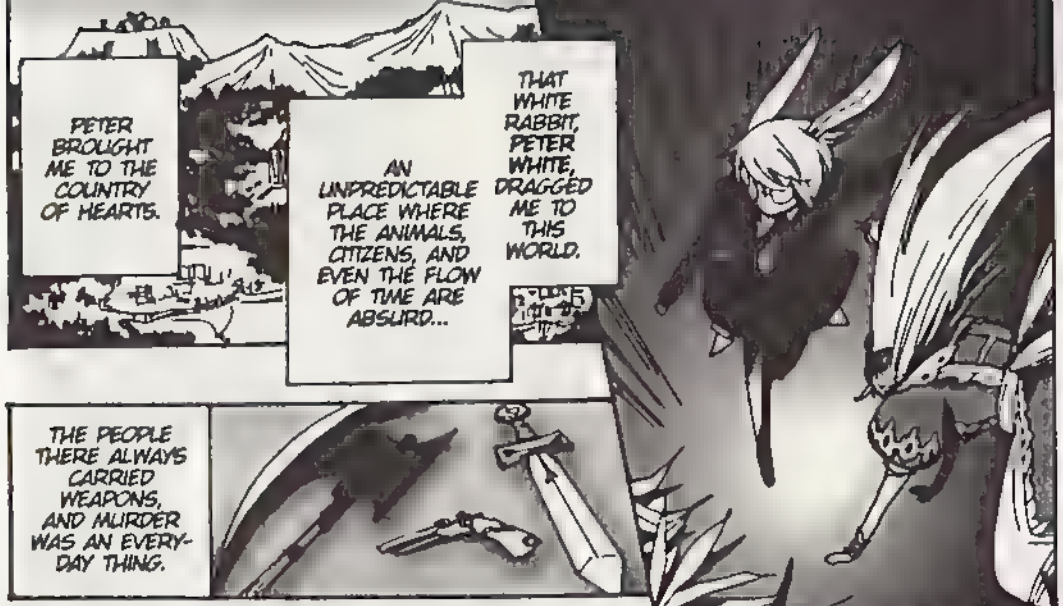

GRAY!! ARE YOU TRYING TO KILL ME-- YOUR OWN SUPERIOR?!
IT'S NEVER ONCE BEEN OVER QUICKLY! NEVER!
THAT'S A LIE!!
LORD NIGHTMARE, IT'LL BE OVER QUICKLY...
WHEN NIGHTMARE VISITS ME IN DREAMS, HE'S SO MYSTERIOUS AND AWE-INSPIRING.
UGH... I'M GOING TO BE SICK...!
THEN AT THE VERY LEAST, TAKE SOME MEDICINE.
I HATE HOSPITALS !!
I'M TELLING YOU TO GO TO THE HOSPITAL BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO KILL YOU.
BLARGH
VOMITING BLOOD
!!
NO! WAY --!!
HARD TO BELIEVE THIS IS THE SAME PERSON...
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO THAT MYSTERIOUS NIGHTMARE...?
HEAVE
COUGH!
IT'S NOT ALL BITTER. DON'T MAKE ASSUMPTIONS!
I...I DON'T WANT MEDICINE, EITHER!! MEDICINE IS BITTER!
NIGHTMARE...
THAT'S WHY I WANTED TO SLEEP NEXT TO YOU...
CREAK
I'M RIGHT HERE.
IT'S ALL RIGHT.

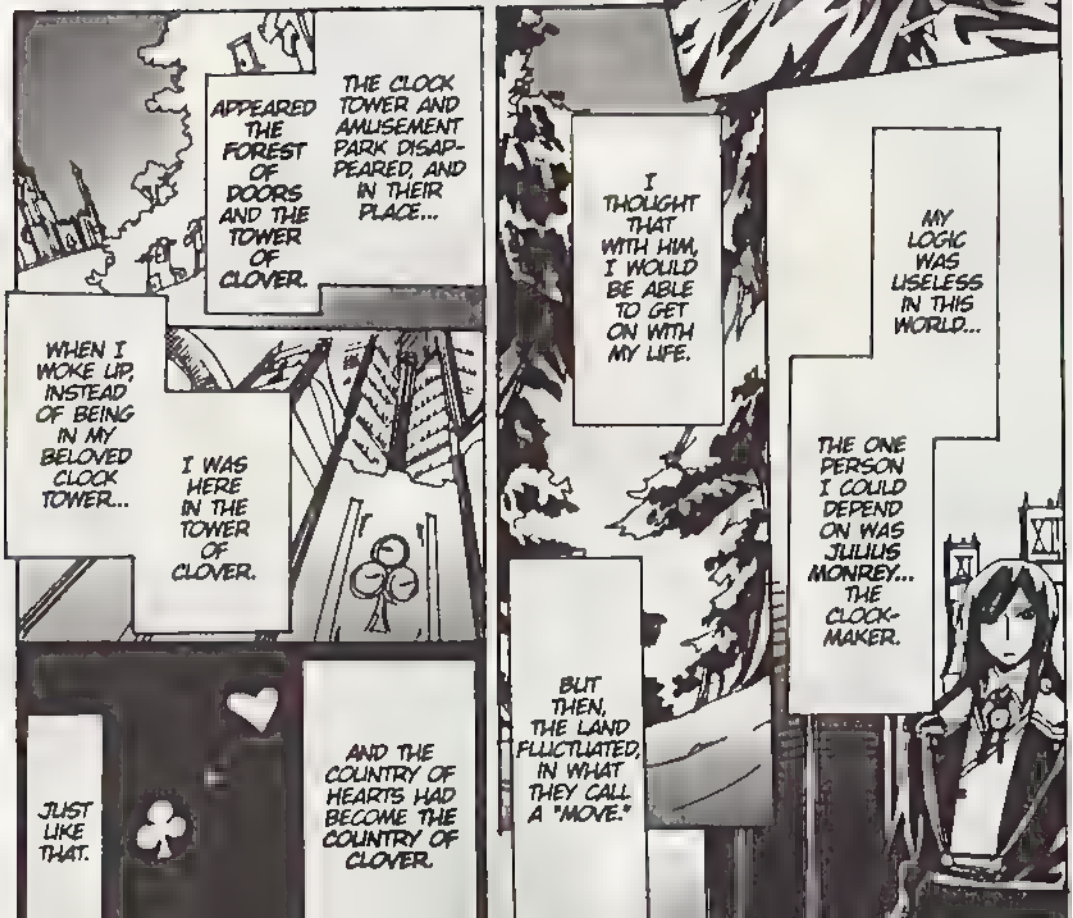

WE ARE NOT ENGAGED !!!
EVEN THOUGH YOU TWO ARE ENGAGED, THAT'S STILL...
BUT, LORD NIGHTMARE, PLEASE CONSIDER HER FEELINGS WHEN YOU SAY THINGS LIKE THAT IN PUBLIC.
I ASSUME YOU WERE TALKING ABOUT HOW YOU ENTER HER DREAMS AT NIGHT...
PLEASE LET ME BE RIGHT.
THIS WHOLE WORLD...!!
ONE BRIGHT AFTERNOON, WHILE I WAS NODDING OFF...
HE SUDDENLY APPEARED IN FRONT OF ME.
A WHITE RABBIT HOLDING A WATCH; A RABBIT WHO COULD SPEAK.
SERIOUSLY... EVERYTHING THE PEOPLE HERE DO IS MAD...
OF COURSE... HE DID PROPOSE TO ME.
I AM NOT PATHETIC!! I'M JUST A LITTLE SICKLY, AND I DON'T LIKE HOSPITALS, MEDICINE, OR WORK!!
SO PLEASE TRY NOT TO PITCH THESE PATHETIC FITS IN PUBLIC.
OR DO THINGS LIKE SKIPPING OUT ON WORK...
THAT'S RIGHT!!
SIGH...
LORD NIGHT-MARE...
AREN'T YOU THE LEADER OF THE TOWER OF CLOVER? YOU'RE THE MOST IMPORTANT MAN HERE.
THAT ALL SOUNDS PRETTY PATHETIC TO ME.
WRAPPING BLANKETS AROUND YOURSELF LIKE CATERPILLAR.
YOU'RE SO MUCH NICER TO ME IN BED...
BUT THEN YOU ACT LIKE THIS WHEN YOU'RE AWAKE...
I'M NOT A CATERPILLAR!
S...SO MEAN, ALICE.
SCUTTLE
SCUTTLE
!!!
POP
WHAT?
EXCUSE ME.
I CAN SLEEP JUST FINE BY MYSELF !
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU CAN'T SLEEP WITHOUT ME.
YOU JUST BARGE INTO MY ROOM AND MY DREAMS WITHOUT PERMIS-SION.
WRONG IDEA? BUT I DO ALWAYS SLEEP WITH YOU.
EVERY-ONE GOT THE WRONG IDEA!!
HEY! PHRAS-ING!
GLARE

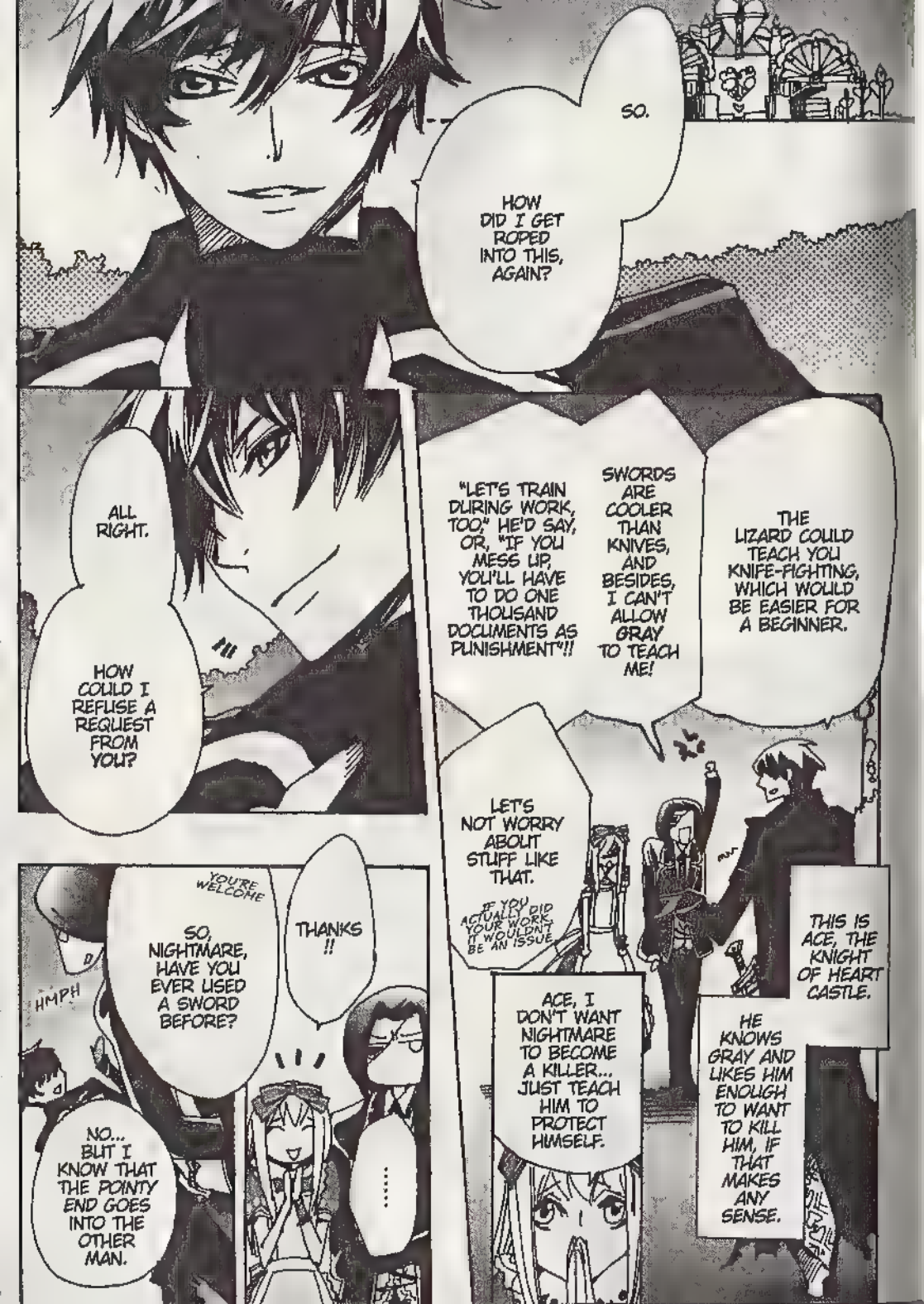

NIGHTMARE, I WAS HOMELESS, AND YOU GAVE ME A PLACE TO LIVE AND WORK.
I'M GRATEFUL FOR THAT. IT'S TRUE.
YES, I KNOW.
I READ IT IN YOUR HEART
HANG ON!!
AND THE LEADER OF THIS NEW COUNTRY...
IS THIS SICKLY CREATURE, NIGHTMARE GOTTSCHALK.

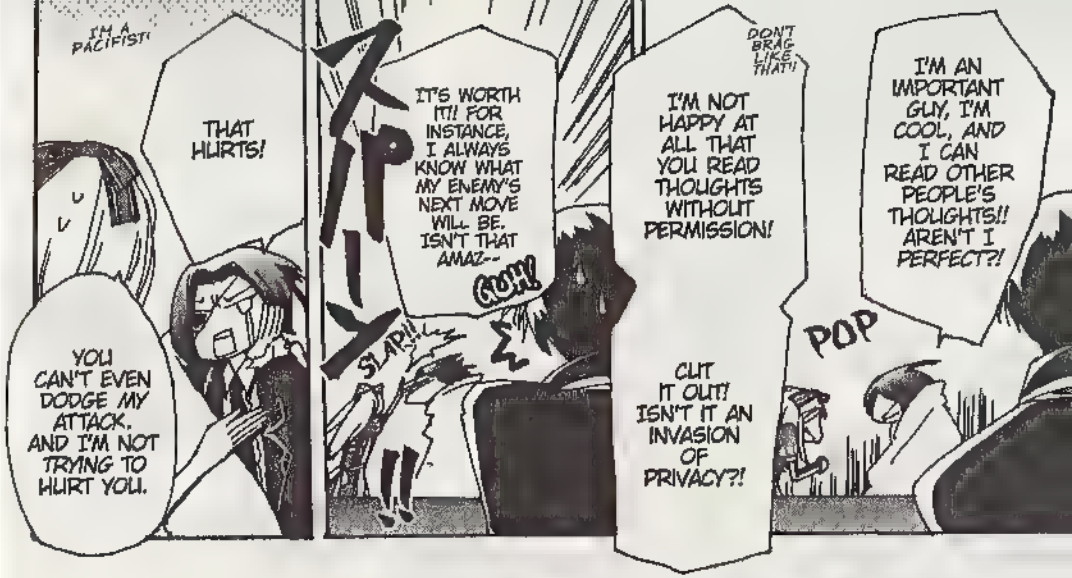

BESIDES, DIDN'T YOU SAY THAT YOU WOULD MARRY ME IF I GOT HEALTHY?
I KNOW YOU SAY YOU AREN'T LOOKING FOR LOVE...
BUT LOVE ISN'T NECESSARY FOR MARRIAGE, AND I DON'T MIND MARRYING YOU, SO I FAIL TO SEE THE PROBLEM.
HE'S CERTAINLY RICH AND POWERFUL ENOUGH, SO I'D LIVE THE GOOD LIFE, BUT...
BUT THAT DOESN'T MAKE US "ENGAGED." WE'RE NOT EVEN LOVERS.
NOT ONLY CAN HE ENTER THE DREAMS OF OTHERS FREELY, BUT HE CAN ALSO READ MINDS.
HE HAS ABSOLUTELY NO CONCEPT OF PRIVACY

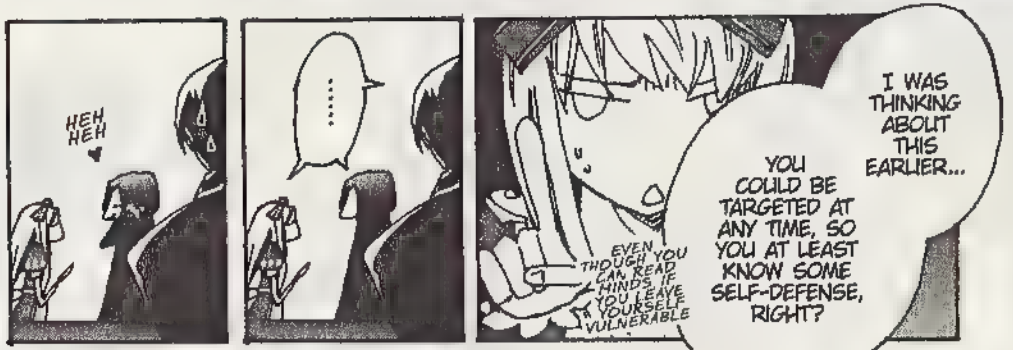

HMMM...
WHAT, THAT'S REALLY ALL?
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO SAY QUIT READING MY THOUGHTS?!
OTHER GOOD QUALITIES...
I THINK I'M QUITE THE CATCH
THERE, YOU SEE?
HE'S SICKLY, HE ALWAYS SKIPS OUT ON WORK, AND ON TOP OF THAT HE'S A SHOW-OFF.
BUT... THAT'S ABOUT IT FOR HIS ADVANTAGES

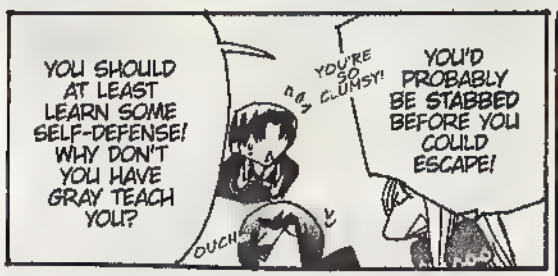

PETER BROUGHT ME TO THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS.
AN UNPREDICTABLE PLACE WHERE THE ANIMALS, CITIZENS, AND EVEN THE FLOW OF TIME ARE ABSURD...
THAT WHITE RABBIT, PETER WHITE, DRAGGED ME TO THIS WORLD.
THE PEOPLE THERE ALWAYS CARRIED WEAPONS, AND MURDER WAS AN EVERY-DAY THING.

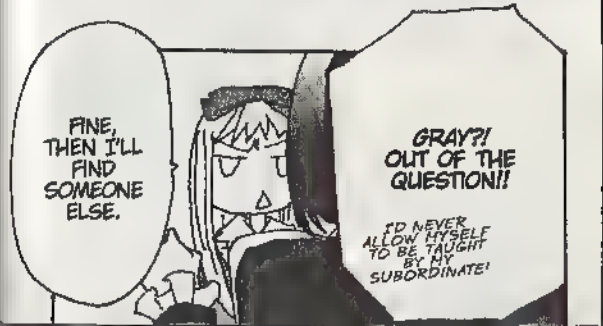

WHEN I WOKE UP, INSTEAD OF BEING IN MY BELOVED CLOCK TOWER...
I WAS HERE IN THE TOWER OF CLOVER.
APPEARED THE FOREST OF DOORS AND THE TOWER OF CLOVER.
THE CLOCK TOWER AND AMUSEMENT PARK DISAP-PEARED, AND IN THEIR PLACE...
JUST LIKE THAT.
AND THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS HAD BECOME THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER.
I THOUGHT THAT WITH HIM, I WOULD BE ABLE TO GET ON WITH MY LIFE.
BUT THEN, THE LAND FLUCTUATED, IN WHAT THEY CALL A "MOVE."
MY LOGIC WAS USELESS IN THIS WORLD...
THE ONE PERSON I COULD DEPEND ON WAS JULIUS MONREY... THE CLOCK-MAKER.


SO.
HOW DID I GET ROPED INTO THIS, AGAIN?
ALL RIGHT.
HOW COULD I REFUSE A REQUEST FROM YOU?
"LET'S TRAIN DURING WORK, TOO," HE'D SAY, OR, "IF YOU MESS UP, YOU'LL HAVE TO DO ONE THOUSAND DOCUMENTS AS PUNISHMENT"!!
SWORDS ARE COOLER THAN KNIVES, AND BESIDES, I CAN'T ALLOW GRAY TO TEACH ME!
THE LIZARD COULD TEACH YOU KNIFE-FIGHTING, WHICH WOULD BE EASIER FOR A BEGINNER.
LET'S NOT WORRY ABOUT STUFF LIKE THAT.
IF YOU ACTUALLY DID YOUR WORK, IT WOULDN'T BE AN ISSUE.
THIS IS ACE, THE KNIGHT OF HEART CASTLE.
ACE, I DON'T WANT NIGHTMARE TO BECOME A KILLER... JUST TEACH HIM TO PROTECT HIMSELF.
HE KNOWS GRAY AND LIKES HIM ENOUGH TO WANT TO KILL HIM, IF THAT MAKES ANY SENSE.
SO, NIGHTMARE, HAVE YOU EVER USED A SWORD BEFORE?
YOU'RE WELCOME
THANKS !!
HMPH
NO... BUT I KNOW THAT THE POINTY END GOES INTO THE OTHER MAN.
.....


I'M A PACIFIST!
THAT HURTS!
YOU CAN'T EVEN DODGE MY ATTACK. AND I'M NOT TRYING TO HURT YOU.
IT'S WORTH IT! FOR INSTANCE, I ALWAYS KNOW WHAT MY ENEMY'S NEXT MOVE WILL BE. ISN'T THAT AMAZ--
SLAP!!
AGH!!
I'M NOT HAPPY AT ALL THAT YOU READ THOUGHTS WITHOUT PERMISSION!
CUT IT OUT! ISN'T IT AN INVASION OF PRIVACY?!
DON'T BRAG LIKE THAT!
I'M AN IMPORTANT GUY, I'M COOL, AND I CAN READ OTHER PEOPLE'S THOUGHTS!! AREN'T I PERFECT?!
POP


HEH HEH
.....
EVEN THOUGH YOU CAN READ MINDS, IF YOU LEAVE YOURSELF VULNERABLE
YOU COULD BE TARGETED AT ANY TIME, SO YOU AT LEAST KNOW SOME SELF-DEFENSE, RIGHT?
I WAS THINKING ABOUT THIS EARLIER...


YOU SHOULD AT LEAST LEARN SOME SELF-DEFENSE! WHY DON'T YOU HAVE GRAY TEACH YOU?
YOU'RE SO CLUMSY!
YOU'D PROBABLY BE STABBED BEFORE YOU COULD ESCAPE!
OUCH

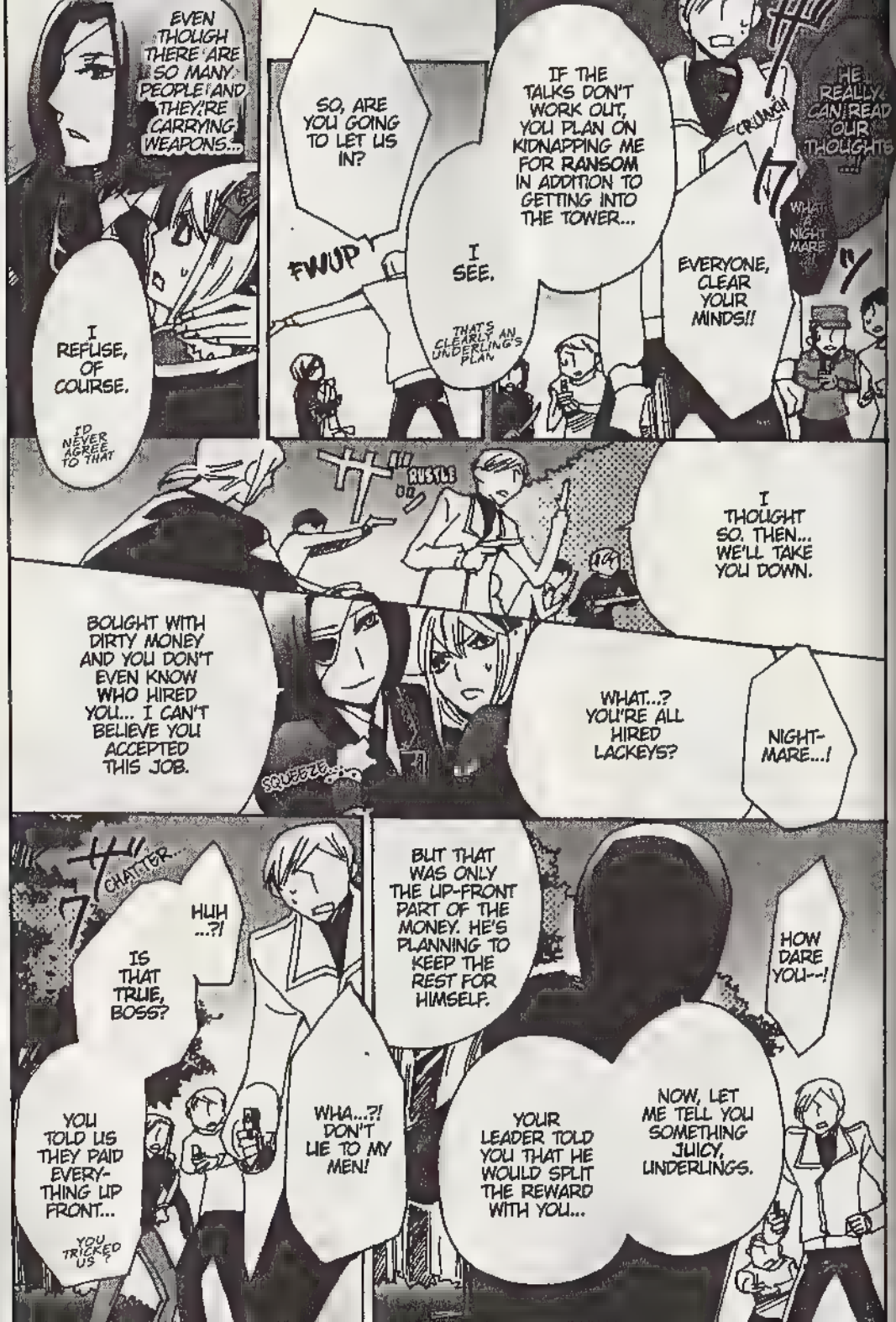

FINE, THEN I'LL FIND SOMEONE ELSE.
GRAY?! OUT OF THE QUESTION!!
I'D NEVER ALLOW MYSELF TO BE TAUGHT BY MY SUBORDINATE!

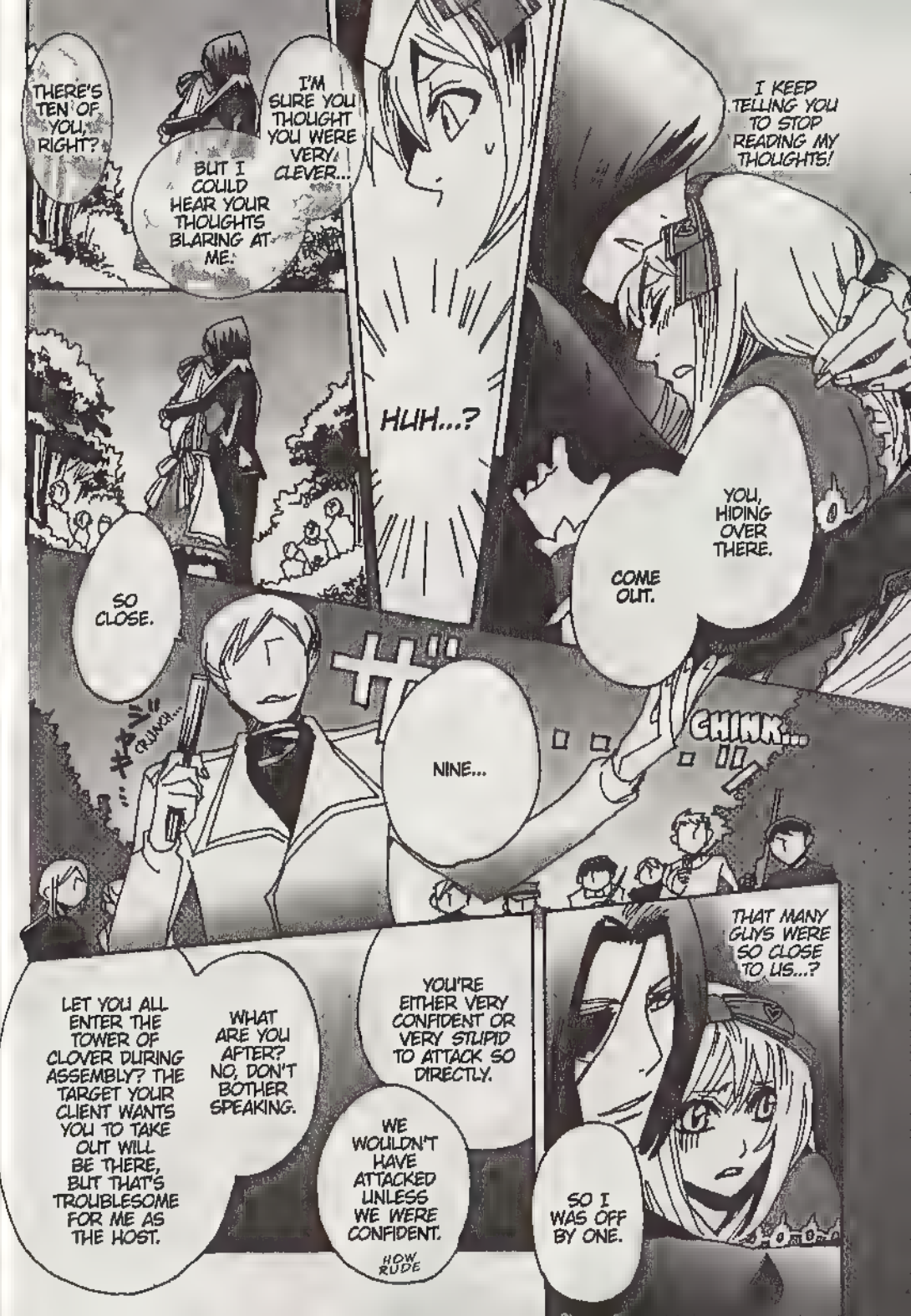
ALICE, LORD NIGHTMARE CAN ENTER THE DREAM WORLD WHENEVER HE LIKES.
NO ONE CAN FOLLOW HIM THERE.
WAIT, ARE YOU TELLING ME THAT IN ADDITION TO YOUR HEALTH AND WORK, YOU DEPEND ENTIRELY ON GRAY AND YOUR SUBORDINATES FOR PROTECTION, TOO...?!
YOU...
I'M SORRY!

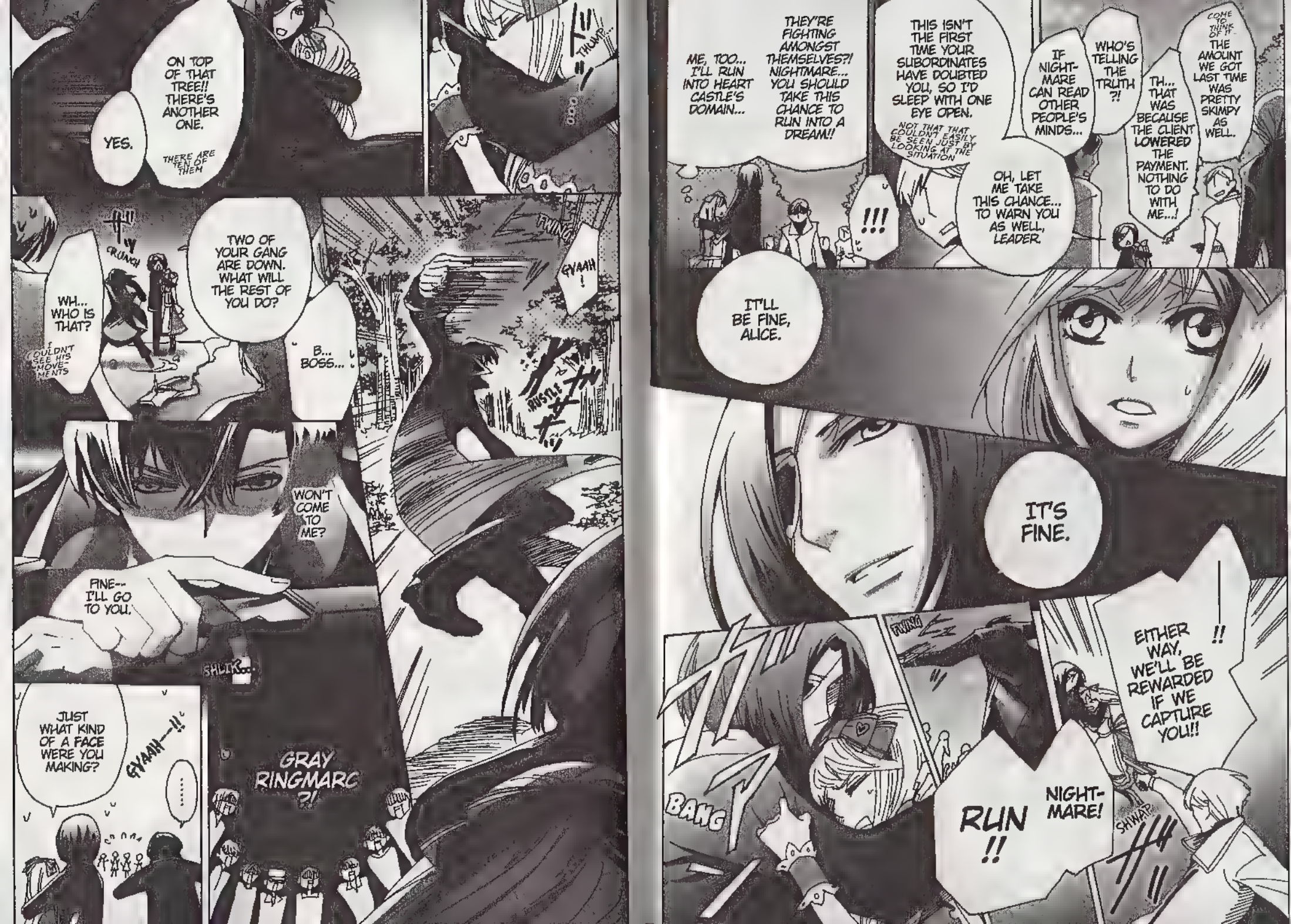
SO.
TEACH THE NIGHTMARE TO USE A GUN? THAT WOULD NOT BE A BIT OF FUN.
GRR
SURE THING!
SQUEEZE
HEY, CAN ONE OF YOU LEND HIM A SMALL GUN?
HE IS THE CULPRIT--THE RABBIT WHO BROUGHT ME TO THIS WORLD.
ALICE, MY LAMB, WHEN IT COMES TO YOU... THERE IS NO GRIM TASK THAT I WOULD NOT DO.
THE PRIME MINISTER OF HEART CASTLE, PETER WHITE.
JUST THE BASICS... WON'T YOU, PLEASE?
THAT'S A TERRIBLE ATTITUDE! HAVE YOU FORGOTTEN HOW I HELPED YOU BRING ALICE TO THIS WORLD?!
SO UNGRATEFUL!!
SCREECH SCREECH
EASY NOW
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO ARE GOING TO BE SHOT
AHA
I SHOULD'VE KNOWN.
BANG!!
DODGE
EEK!
CERTAINLY NOT
GO LINE UP OVER IN THAT PLACE.
NOW, ALL OF YOU, INCLUDING ACE...
WHAT? ARE YOU GOING TO GIVE US A LESSON, TOO?

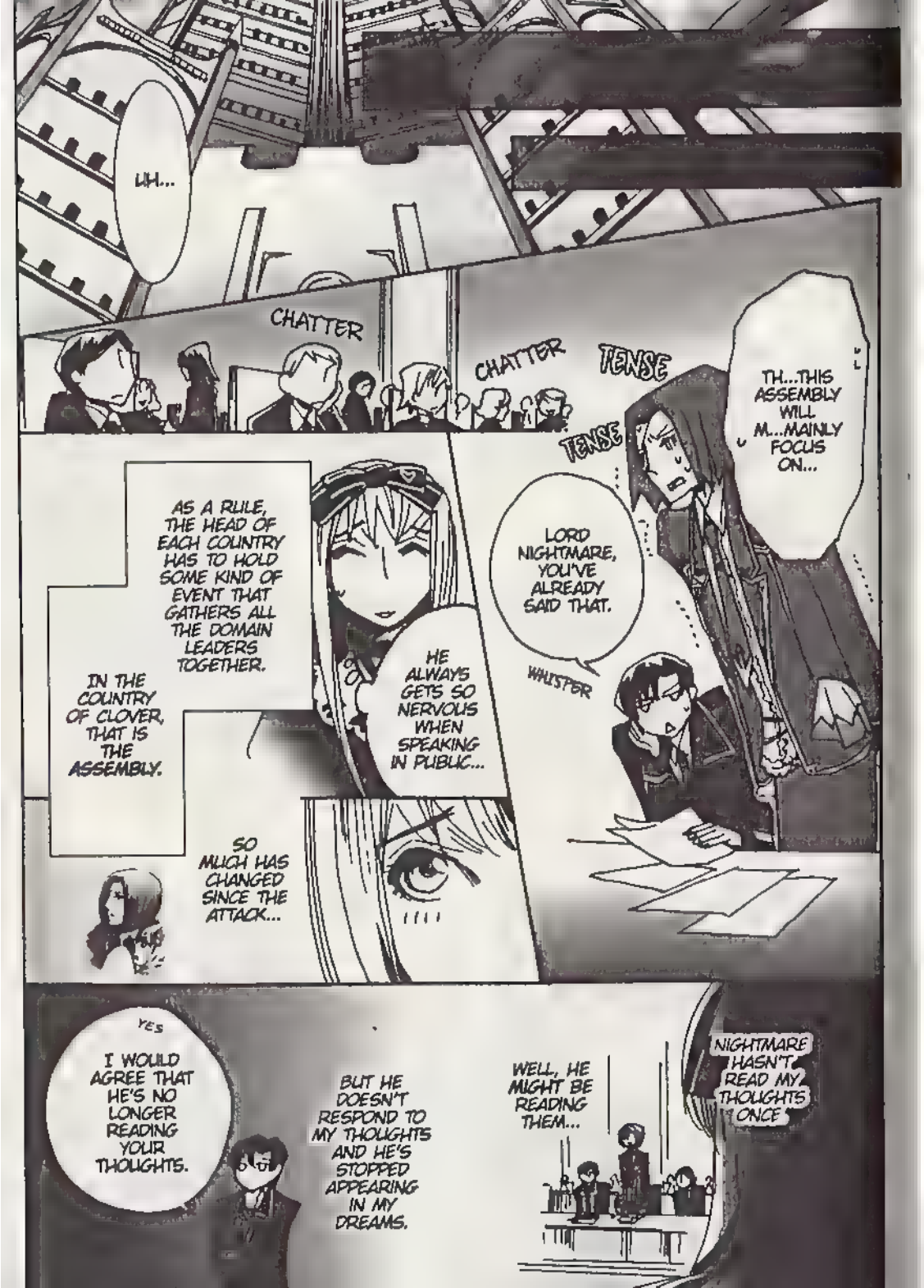
?!!
WHUMP
YES.
IT'S... A LOT MORE COMPLICATED THAN THAT.
HERE. THIS IS ONE OF THE SWORDS MY SUBORDINATES USE FOR TRAINING.
KEEP IT SHEATHED
TREMBLE TREMBLE TREMBLE
IS IT REALLY THAT HEAVY? CAN I TRY TO HOLD IT?
SHAKE-SHAKE
SHAKE
WH... WHY IS THIS SO HEAVY ...?!
THAT'S STANDARD WEIGHT FOR A SWORD.
IT WOULDN'T BE MUCH USE IF IT WERE TOO LIGHT
GLOOM
ALICE SHOWED ME UP.
ARE YOU SURE TEACHING HIM TO USE A SWORD IS A GOOD IDEA?
YOUR SWORD LOOKS EVEN HEAVIER ACE
SHAKE
SEE?
HAVE I GOT THE HANG OF IT?
WUMPH
SEE?
WOW... THAT IS REALLY HEAVY...
BUT...
HI-YAH!
WOW--!
SWOOSH

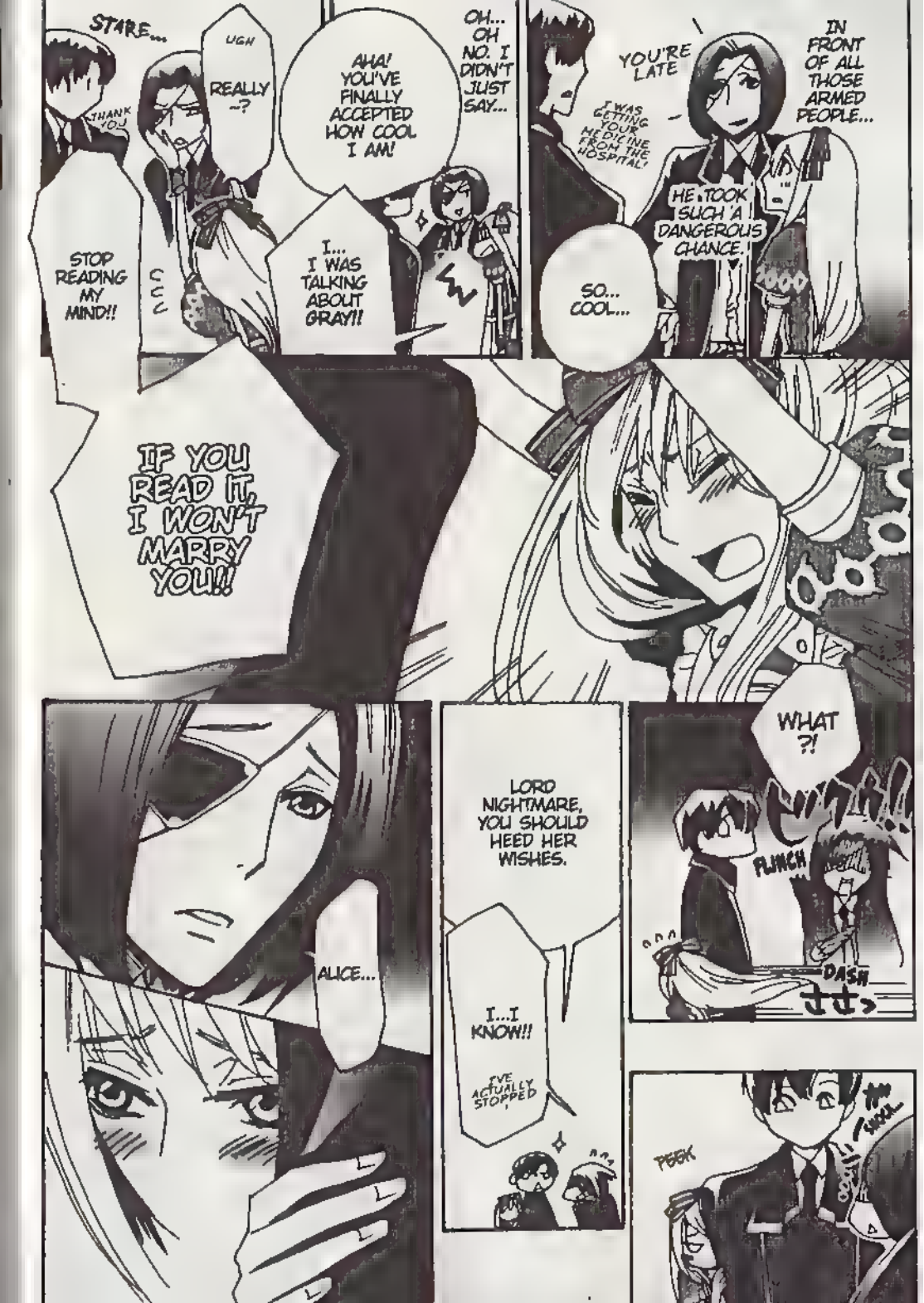
I THINK THAT'S A LITTLE HARSH.
SO PATHETIC...
SIGH
I'M SO EXASPERATED I DON'T EVEN WANT TO TALK.
TRUDGE TRUDGE
I THINK IT'S BEST TO LET THE LIZARD PROTECT HIM.
AH HA.
USING BOTH HANDS LOOKS DORKY!!
WHAT IF YOU'D ACCIDENTALLY SHOT ALICE?!
YOU'RE FAR TOO INEXPERIENCED TO TRY SHOOTING ONE-HANDED!!
NAG NAG NAG
RISE
GOODNESS...
DON'T PATRONIZE ME!!
SIGH...
SINCE YOU'RE NEW TO THIS SKILL, JUST SHOOT WHERE YOU WILL.
I JUST WANT HIM TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT HIMSELF! NOT SHOOT PEOPLE!!
DON'T FRET, SWEET DOVE; HE WON'T SHOOT AT YOU, MY LOVE.
PETER, STOP!! YOU CAN'T USE PEOPLE AS TARGETS!!
PAUSE
THA-THUMP
BUT I DON'T WANT HIM TO KILL ANYONE, SO MAYBE THIS IS FOR THE BEST.
I WANT HIM TO BE ABLE TO PROTECT HIMSELF...
RIGHT?
UNLIKE THE KNIGHT!
I HAVE REALLY GOOD LUCK!!
DON'T BE SO COCKY.
THUMBS UP
HE'S ALREADY SO WEAK THAT HE VOMITS BLOOD. IT'S AMAZING HE'S SURVIVED THIS LONG...
SNAP
THUNK
HUH?
BANG!!
FWING
ALICE! OVER HERE!!
HE LOOKS PRETTY COOL WHEN HE KEEPS QUIET...
THAT STANCE...!!
I'M NOT TAKING ADVANTAGE OF ANYTHING.
HOW CAN YOU TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MOMENT LIKE THAT?!
HUG
YOU SHOULD HURRY UP AND MARRY ME, ALICE.
Y... YOU'RE WRONG ...!
GOODNESS
IT'S TOUCHING THAT YOU WERE SO WORRIED ABOUT ME.
GASP

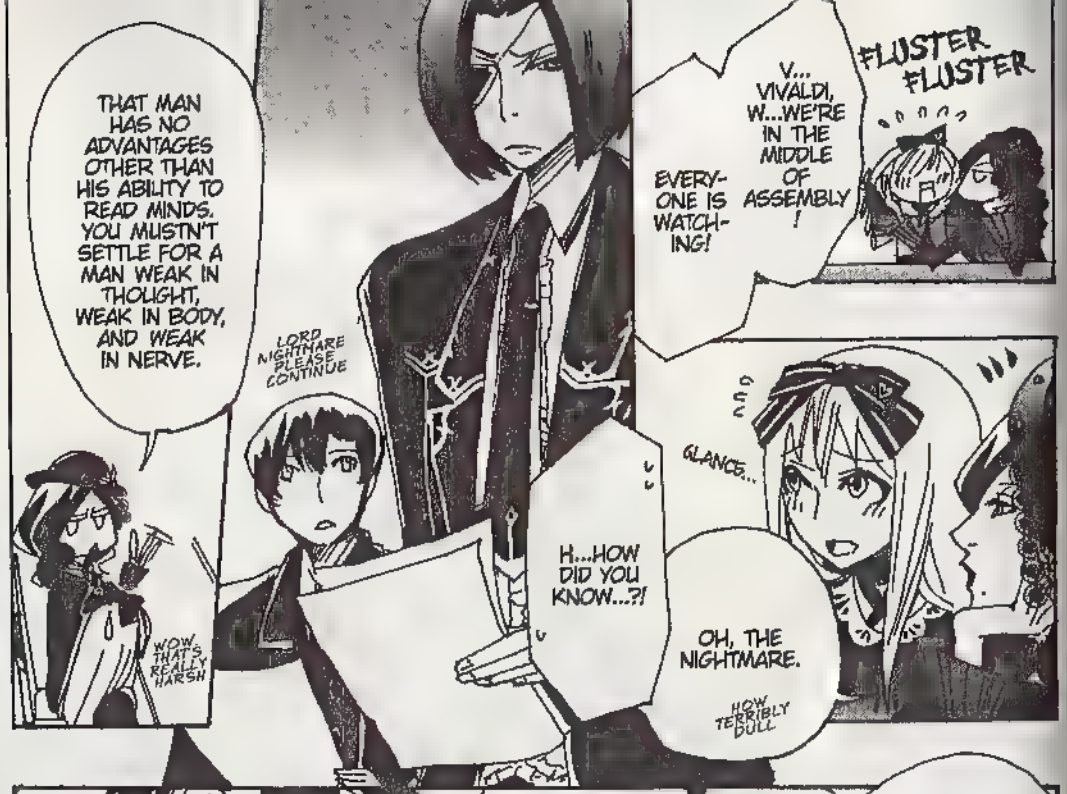

EVEN THOUGH THERE ARE SO MANY PEOPLE AND THEY'RE CARRYING WEAPONS...
I REFUSE, OF COURSE.
I'D NEVER AGREE TO THAT
SO, ARE YOU GOING TO LET US IN?
FWUP
I SEE.
IF THE TALKS DON'T WORK OUT, YOU PLAN ON KIDNAPPING ME FOR RANSOM IN ADDITION TO GETTING INTO THE TOWER...
THAT'S CLEARLY AN UNDERLING'S PLAN
CRUNCH
HE REALLY CAN READ OUR THOUGHTS...!
WHAT A NIGHTMARE...!
EVERYONE, CLEAR YOUR MINDS!!
RUSTLE
I THOUGHT SO. THEN... WE'LL TAKE YOU DOWN.
BOUGHT WITH DIRTY MONEY AND YOU DON'T EVEN KNOW WHO HIRED YOU... I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU ACCEPTED THIS JOB.
SQUEEZE
WHAT...? YOU'RE ALL HIRED LACKEYS?
NIGHT-MARE...!
CHATTER...
HUH ...?!
IS THAT TRUE, BOSS?
YOU TOLD US THEY PAID EVERY-THING UP FRONT...
YOU TRICKED US?
WHA...?! DON'T LIE TO MY MEN!
BUT THAT WAS ONLY THE UP-FRONT PART OF THE MONEY. HE'S PLANNING TO KEEP THE REST FOR HIMSELF.
YOUR LEADER TOLD YOU THAT HE WOULD SPLIT THE REWARD WITH YOU...
NOW, LET ME TELL YOU SOMETHING JUICY, UNDERLINGS.
HOW DARE YOU--!

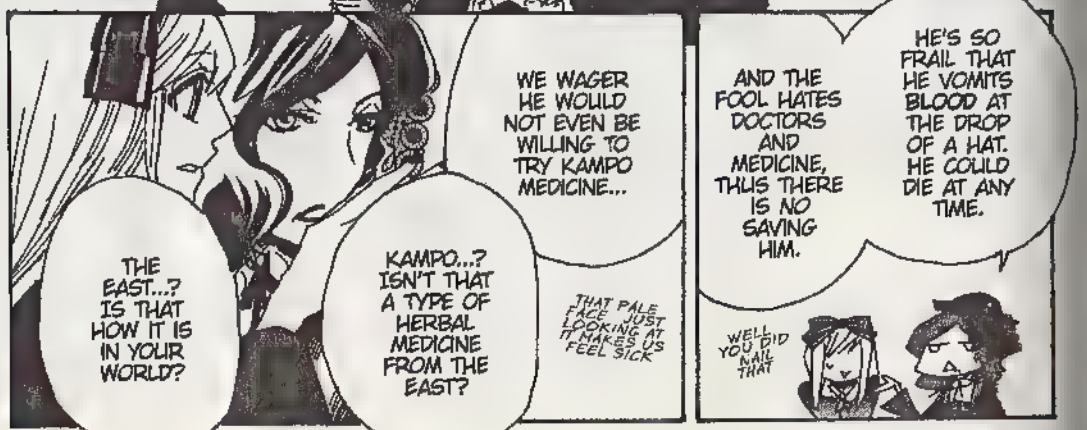

I KEEP TELLING YOU TO STOP READING MY THOUGHTS!
THERE'S TEN OF YOU, RIGHT?
I'M SURE YOU THOUGHT YOU WERE VERY CLEVER...
BUT I COULD HEAR YOUR THOUGHTS BLARING AT ME.
HUH...?
YOU, HIDING OVER THERE.
COME OUT.
SO CLOSE.
CRUNCH...
NINE...
CHINK...
THAT MANY GUYS WERE SO CLOSE TO US...?
SO I WAS OFF BY ONE.
LET YOU ALL ENTER THE TOWER OF CLOVER DURING ASSEMBLY? THE TARGET YOUR CLIENT WANTS YOU TO TAKE OUT WILL BE THERE, BUT THAT'S TROUBLESOME FOR ME AS THE HOST.
WHAT ARE YOU AFTER? NO, DON'T BOTHER SPEAKING.
YOU'RE EITHER VERY CONFIDENT OR VERY STUPID TO ATTACK SO DIRECTLY.
WE WOULDN'T HAVE ATTACKED UNLESS WE WERE CONFIDENT.
HOW RUDE


ON TOP OF THAT TREE!! THERE'S ANOTHER ONE.
THERE ARE TEN OF THEM
YES.
THUMP...
TWO OF YOUR GANG ARE DOWN. WHAT WILL THE REST OF YOU DO?
CRUNCH
WH... WHO IS THAT?
I COULDN'T SEE HIS MOVEMENTS
B... BOSS...
TWING
GYAAH!
RUSTLE
WON'T COME TO ME?
FINE-- I'LL GO TO YOU.
SHLIK...
JUST WHAT KIND OF A FACE WERE YOU MAKING?
GYAAH—!!
.....
GRAY RINGMARC ?!
ME, TOO... I'LL RUN INTO HEART CASTLE'S DOMAIN...
THEY'RE FIGHTING AMONGST THEMSELVES?! NIGHTMARE... YOU SHOULD TAKE THIS CHANCE TO RUN INTO A DREAM!!
THIS ISN'T THE FIRST TIME YOUR SUBORDINATES HAVE DOUBTED YOU, SO I'D SLEEP WITH ONE EYE OPEN.
NOT THAT THAT COULDN'T EASILY BE SEEN JUST BY LOOKING AT THE SITUATION
!!!
OH, LET ME TAKE THIS CHANCE... TO WARN YOU AS WELL, LEADER.
IF NIGHT-MARE CAN READ OTHER PEOPLE'S MINDS...
WHO'S TELLING THE TRUTH ?!
TH... THAT WAS BECAUSE THE CLIENT LOWERED THE PAYMENT. NOTHING TO DO WITH ME...!
COME TO THINK OF IT... THE AMOUNT WE GOT LAST TIME WAS PRETTY SKIMPY AS WELL.
IT'LL BE FINE, ALICE.
IT'S FINE.
EITHER WAY, WE'LL BE REWARDED IF WE CAPTURE YOU!!
!!
TWING
BANG
RUN !!
NIGHT-MARE!
SHWAP

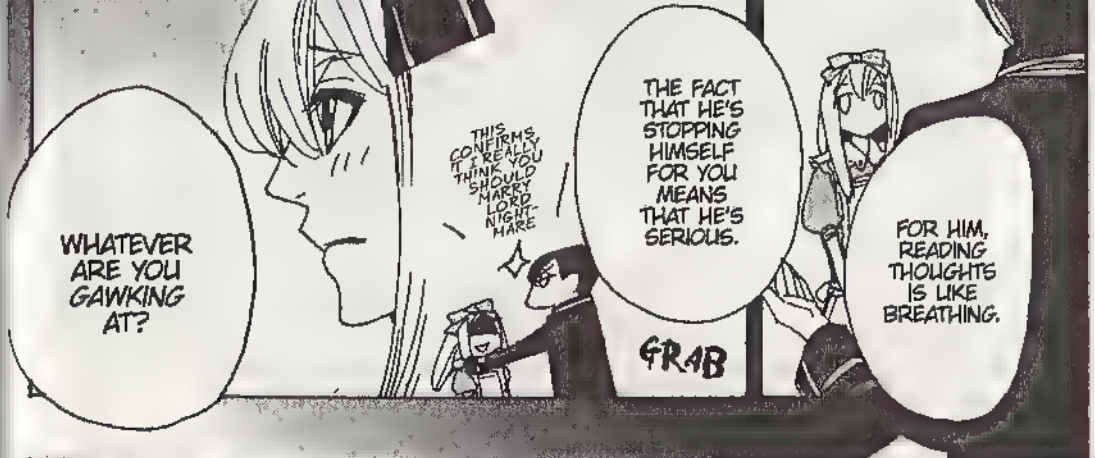

UH...
CHATTER
CHATTER
TENSE
TENSE
TH...THIS ASSEMBLY WILL M...MAINLY FOCUS ON...
LORD NIGHTMARE, YOU'VE ALREADY SAID THAT.
WHISPER
AS A RULE, THE HEAD OF EACH COUNTRY HAS TO HOLD SOME KIND OF EVENT THAT GATHERS ALL THE DOMAIN LEADERS TOGETHER.
IN THE COUNTRY OF CLOVER, THAT IS THE ASSEMBLY.
HE ALWAYS GETS SO NERVOUS WHEN SPEAKING IN PUBLIC...
SO MUCH HAS CHANGED SINCE THE ATTACK...
YES
I WOULD AGREE THAT HE'S NO LONGER READING YOUR THOUGHTS.
BUT HE DOESN'T RESPOND TO MY THOUGHTS AND HE'S STOPPED APPEARING IN MY DREAMS.
WELL, HE MIGHT BE READING THEM...
NIGHTMARE HASN'T READ MY THOUGHTS ONCE

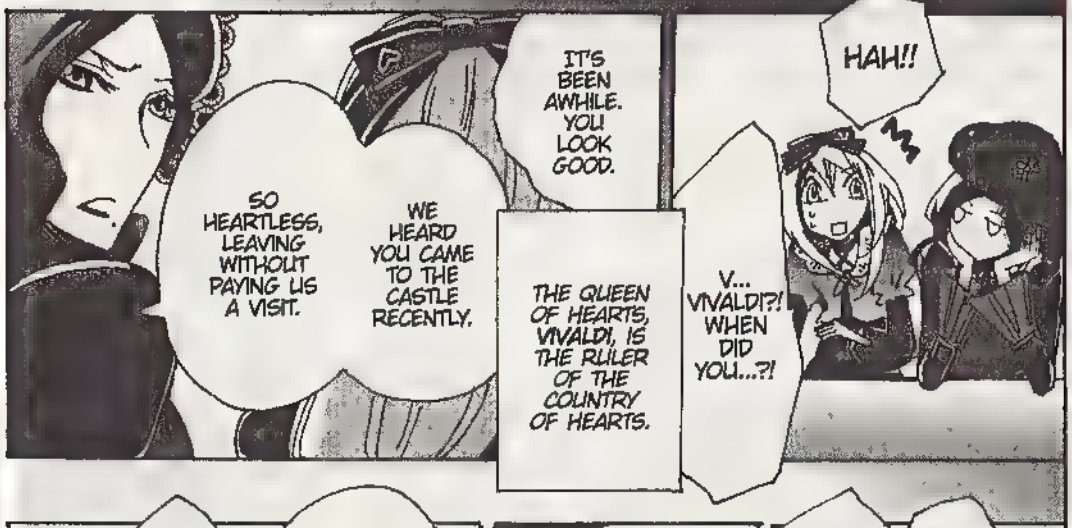

STARE...
THANK YOU
UGH
REALLY ~?
AHA! YOU'VE FINALLY ACCEPTED HOW COOL I AM!
OH... OH NO. I DIDN'T JUST SAY...
STOP READING MY MIND!!
I... I WAS TALKING ABOUT GRAY!!
YOU'RE LATE
I WAS GETTING YOUR MEDICINE FROM THE HOSPITAL!
IN FRONT OF ALL THOSE ARMED PEOPLE...
HE TOOK SUCH A DANGEROUS CHANCE.
SO... COOL...
IF YOU READ IT, I WON'T MARRY YOU!!
ALICE...
LORD NIGHTMARE, YOU SHOULD HEED HER WISHES.
I...I KNOW!!
I'VE ACTUALLY STOPPED
WHAT ?!
FLINCH
DASH
PEEK
HI


THAT MAN HAS NO ADVANTAGES OTHER THAN HIS ABILITY TO READ MINDS. YOU MUSTN'T SETTLE FOR A MAN WEAK IN THOUGHT, WEAK IN BODY, AND WEAK IN NERVE.
WOW, THAT'S REALLY HARSH
LORD NIGHTMARE PLEASE CONTINUE
V... VIVALDI, W...WE'RE IN THE MIDDLE OF ASSEMBLY!
EVERY-ONE IS WATCH-ING!
FLUSTER FLUSTER
H...HOW DID YOU KNOW...?!
GLANCE...
OH, THE NIGHTMARE.
HOW TERRIBLY DULL

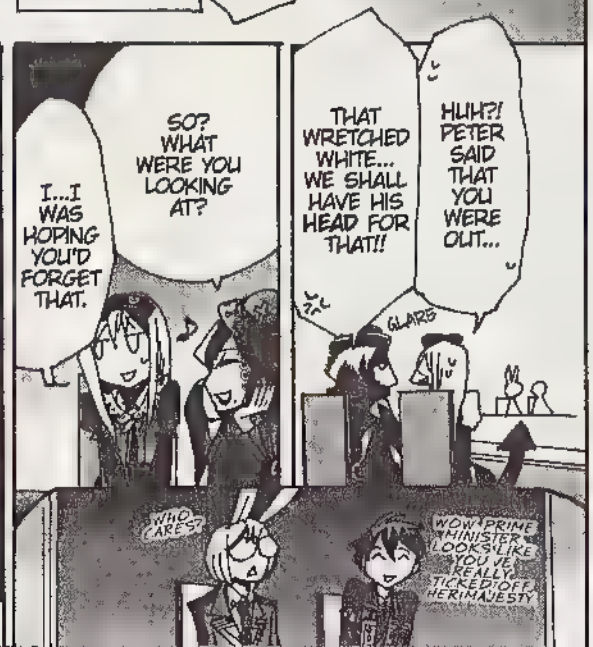

THE EAST...? IS THAT HOW IT IS IN YOUR WORLD?
KAMPO...? ISN'T THAT A TYPE OF HERBAL MEDICINE FROM THE EAST?
WE WAGER HE WOULD NOT EVEN BE WILLING TO TRY KAMPO MEDICINE...
THAT PALE FACE JUST LOOKING AT IT MAKES US FEEL SICK
AND THE FOOL HATES DOCTORS AND MEDICINE, THUS THERE IS NO SAVING HIM.
HE'S SO FRAIL THAT HE VOMITS BLOOD AT THE DROP OF A HAT. HE COULD DIE AT ANY TIME.
WELL, YOU DID NAIL THAT

WH... WHAT?!
STARE
KAMPO MEDICINE... I'VE GOT MY DOUBTS, BUT IT'S PROBABLY WORTH A TRY.
THEIR BEALITY SALVE IS POPULAR AMONG THE MAIDS.
A STORE SELLING THAT MEDICINE SIMPLY APPEARED WITH THE MOVE.

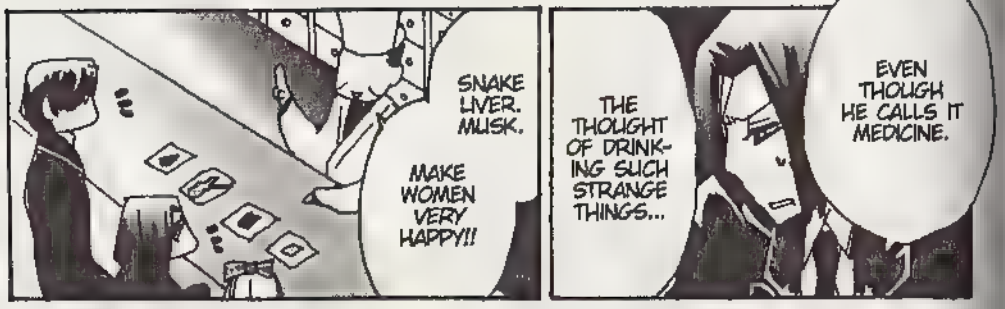

WHATEVER ARE YOU GAWKING AT?
THIS CONFIRMS IT. I REALLY THINK YOU SHOULD MARRY LORD NIGHT-MARE
THE FACT THAT HE'S STOPPING HIMSELF FOR YOU MEANS THAT HE'S SERIOUS.
GRAB
FOR HIM, READING THOUGHTS IS LIKE BREATHING.


SO HEARTLESS, LEAVING WITHOUT PAYING US A VISIT.
WE HEARD YOU CAME TO THE CASTLE RECENTLY.
IT'S BEEN AWHILE. YOU LOOK GOOD.
THE QUEEN OF HEARTS, VIVALDI, IS THE RULER OF THE COUNTRY OF HEARTS.
HAH!!
V... VIVALDI?! WHEN DID YOU...?!

!!
LET US GUESS.
PULL
KISS


I...I WAS HOPING YOU'D FORGET THAT.
SO? WHAT WERE YOU LOOKING AT?
THAT WRETCHED WHITE... WE SHALL HAVE HIS HEAD FOR THAT!!
HUH?! PETER SAID THAT YOU WERE OUT...
GLARE
WHO CARES?
WOW! PRIME MINISTER LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE REALLY TICKED OFF HER MAJESTY

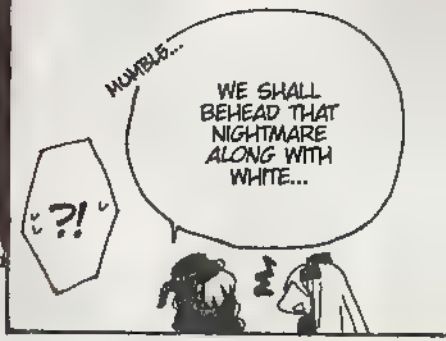
CAN EVEN BRING BACK THE DEAD!!
I...DON'T REALLY UNDERSTAND, BUT THESE ARE DRIED HERBS AND MINERALS...?
I DON'T TRUST IT!
WILL ALL THIS STUFF REALLY MAKE ME FEEL BETTER...?
DISGUSTING
SNAKE LIVER! PSEUDOGINSENG! COW STONE! MUSK!!
YOU DRINK, VERY HEALTHY !!
BAM BAM BAM BAM

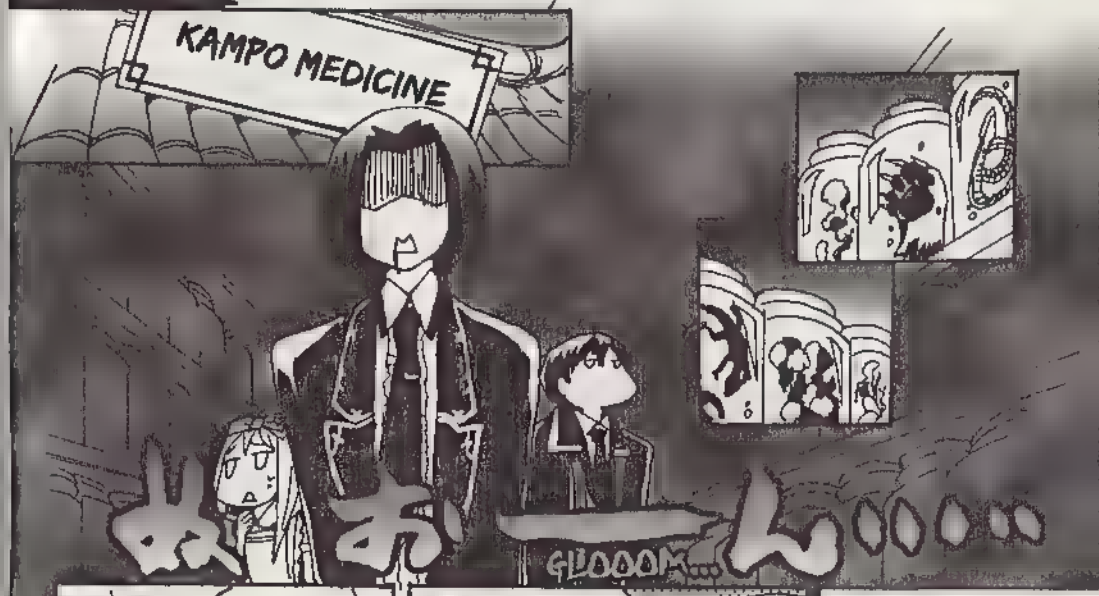

SNAKE LIVER. MUSK.
MAKE WOMEN VERY HAPPY!!
THE THOUGHT OF DRINKING SUCH STRANGE THINGS...
EVEN THOUGH HE CALLS IT MEDICINE.

HERBALIST
CAN I TRY IT NOW?

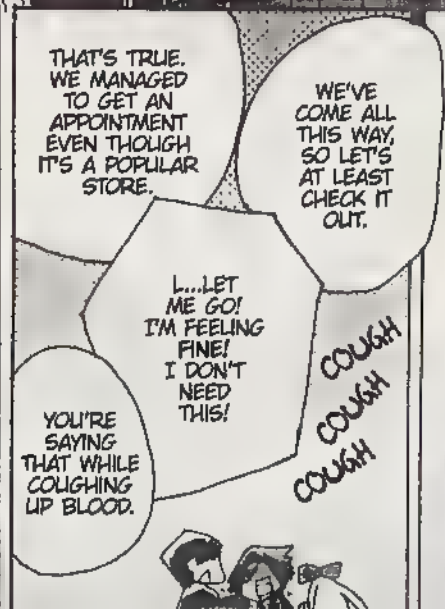
I GO MAKE~.
OH
DON'T MAKE IT BITTER.
LORD NIGHTMARE! WE DIDN'T DO ENOUGH RESEARCH !!

COULD IT BE WHAT?
WOMEN... COULD IT BE...?
DEFINITELY.

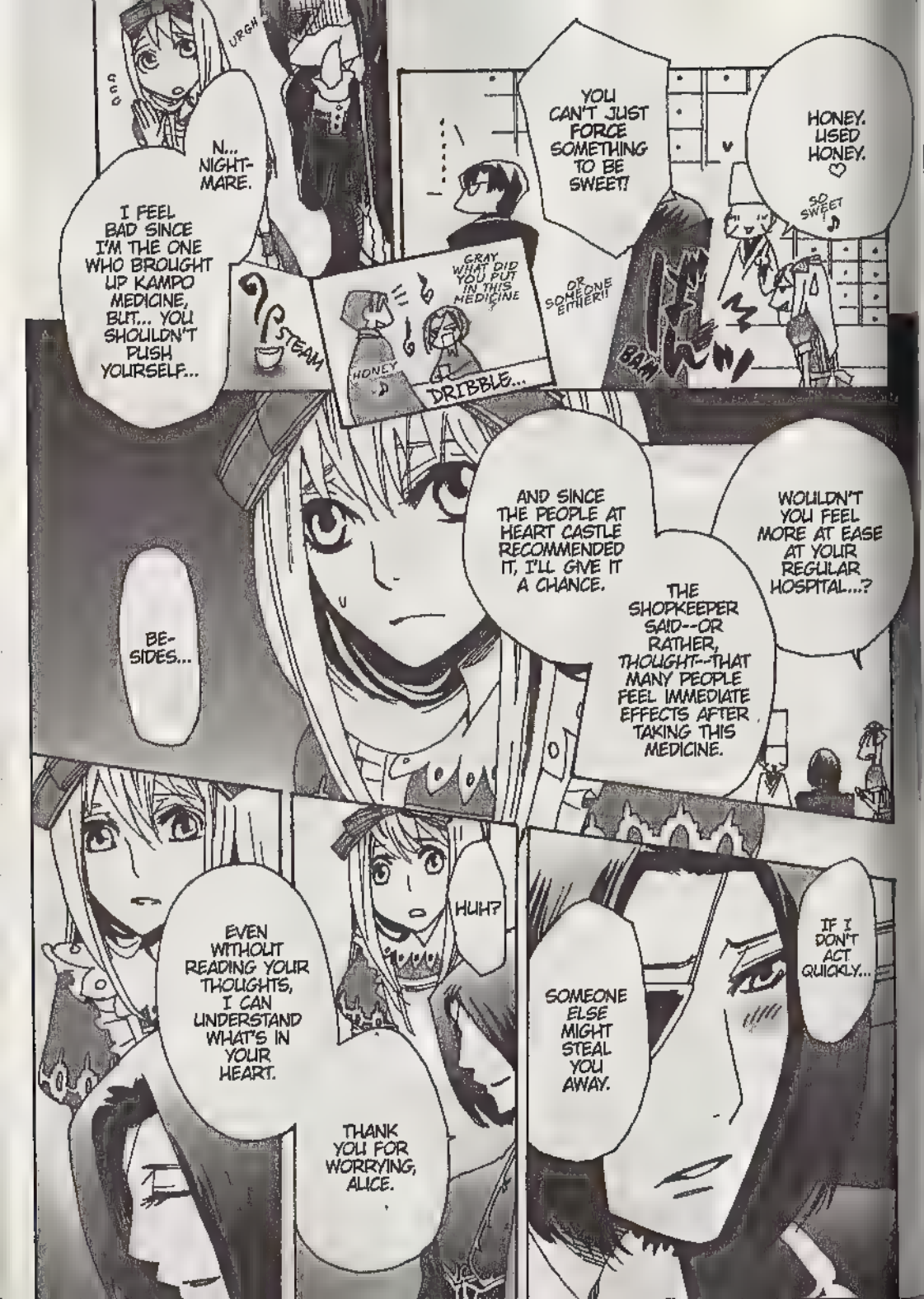

MUMBLE...
?!
WE SHALL BEHEAD THAT NIGHTMARE ALONG WITH WHITE...

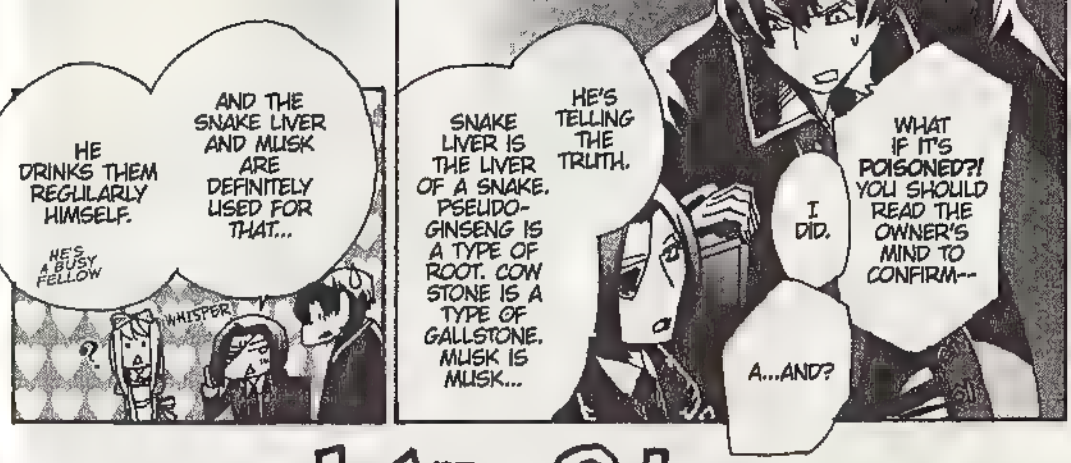

KAMPO MEDICINE
GLOOOM...

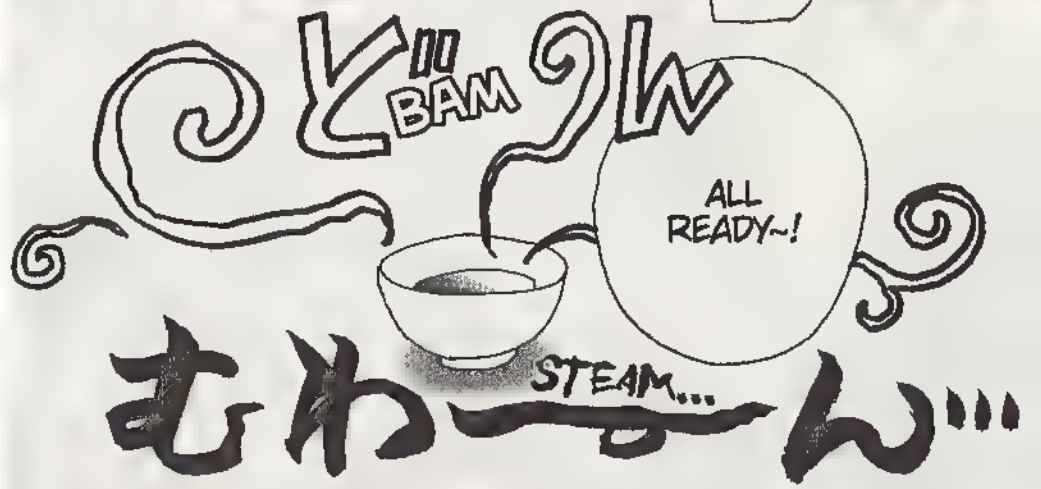
I...I CAN'T BREATHE... I'M GOING TO VOMIT... I'M GOING TO DIE...!
IS THERE A MEDICINE THAT WILL HELP HIM?
YES, YES~!

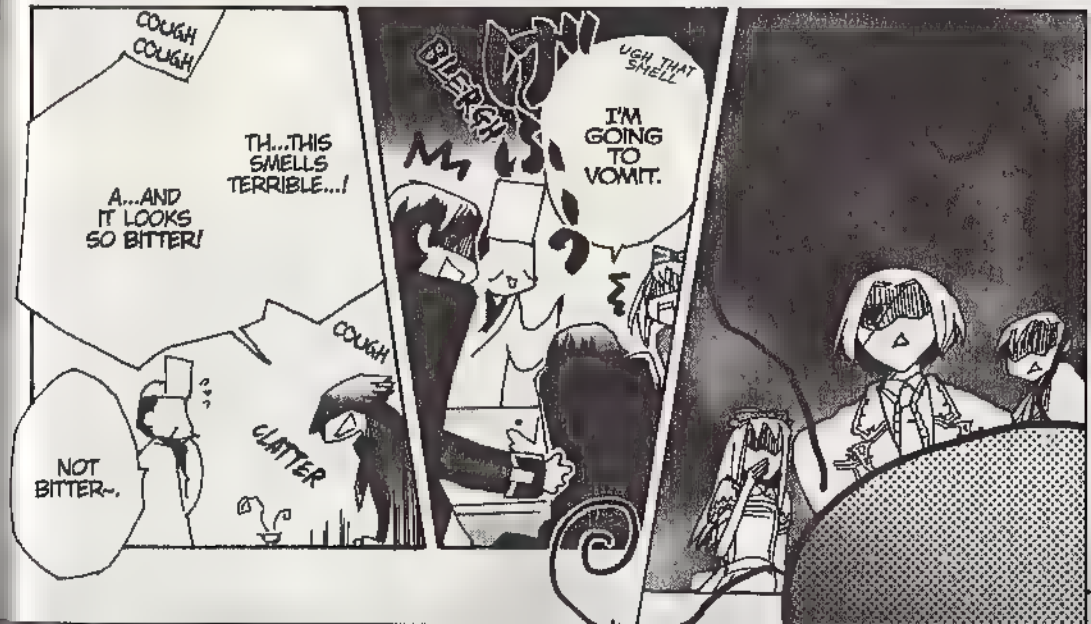

THAT'S TRUE. WE MANAGED TO GET AN APPOINTMENT EVEN THOUGH IT'S A POPULAR STORE.
WE'VE COME ALL THIS WAY, SO LET'S AT LEAST CHECK IT OUT.
L...LET ME GO! I'M FEELING FINE! I DON'T NEED THIS!
COUGH COUGH COUGH
YOU'RE SAYING THAT WHILE COUGHING UP BLOOD.

I'M GOING HOME.
GRAB


URGH
N... NIGHT-MARE.
I FEEL BAD SINCE I'M THE ONE WHO BROUGHT UP KAMPO MEDICINE, BUT... YOU SHOULDN'T PUSH YOURSELF...
STEAM
GRAY WHAT DID YOU PUT IN THIS MEDICINE?
HONEY
DRIBBLE...
YOU CAN'T JUST FORCE SOMETHING TO BE SWEET!
OR SOMEONE ELSE!!
HONEY. USED HONEY.
SO SWEET
BAM
BE-SIDES...
AND SINCE THE PEOPLE AT HEART CASTLE RECOMMENDED IT, I'LL GIVE IT A CHANCE.
THE SHOPKEEPER SAID--OR RATHER, THOUGHT--THAT MANY PEOPLE FEEL IMMEDIATE EFFECTS AFTER TAKING THIS MEDICINE.
WOULDN'T YOU FEEL MORE AT EASE AT YOUR REGULAR HOSPITAL...?
EVEN WITHOUT READING YOUR THOUGHTS, I CAN UNDERSTAND WHAT'S IN YOUR HEART.
THANK YOU FOR WORRYING, ALICE.
HUH?
SOMEONE ELSE MIGHT STEAL YOU AWAY.
IF I DON'T ACT QUICKLY...

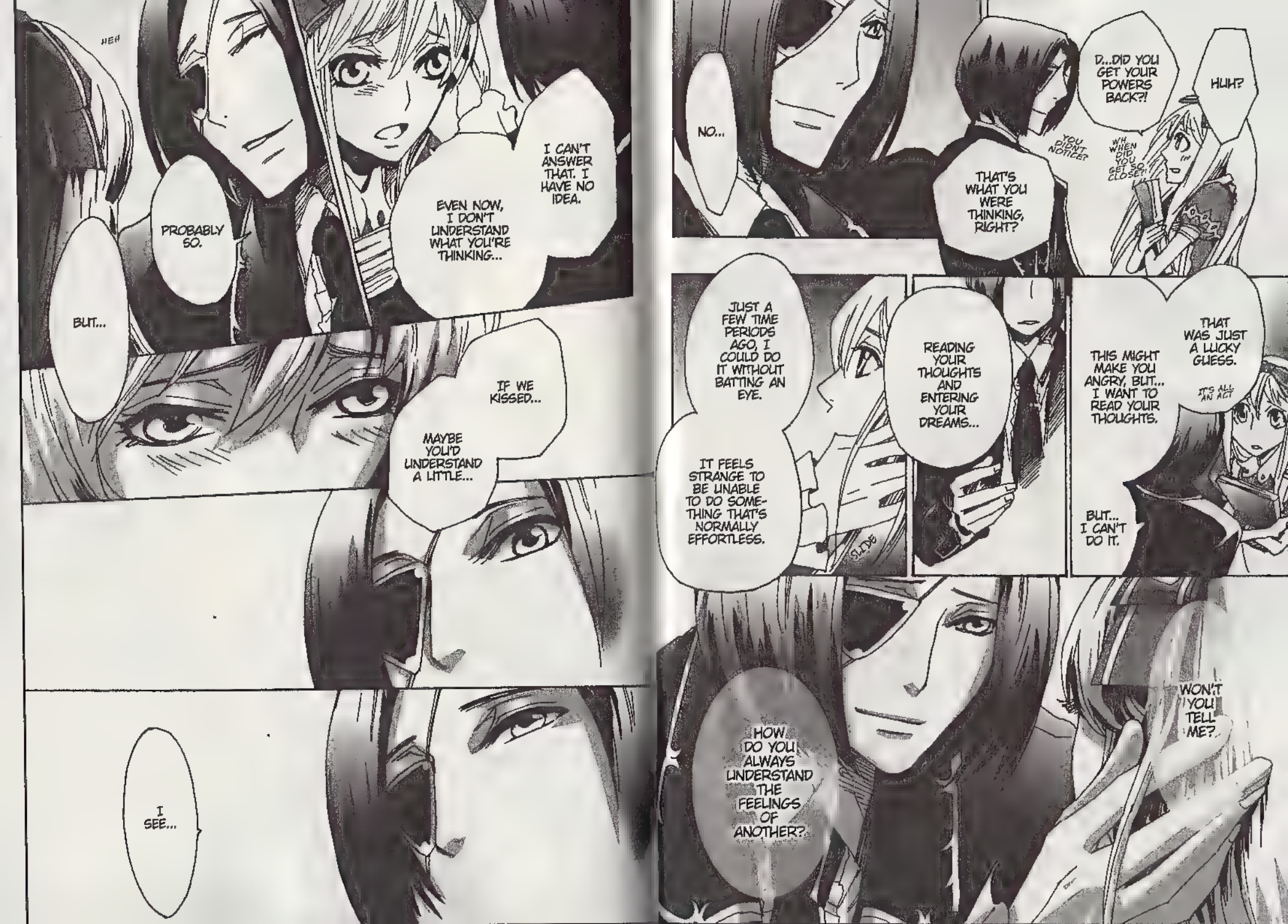

HE DRINKS THEM REGULARLY HIMSELF.
HE'S A BUSY FELLOW
AND THE SNAKE LIVER AND MUSK ARE DEFINITELY USED FOR THAT...
WHISPER
SNAKE LIVER IS THE LIVER OF A SNAKE. PSEUDO-GINSENG IS A TYPE OF ROOT. COW STONE IS A TYPE OF GALLSTONE. MUSK IS MUSK...
HE'S TELLING THE TRUTH.
I DID.
WHAT IF IT'S POISONED?! YOU SHOULD READ THE OWNER'S MIND TO CONFIRM--
A...AND?

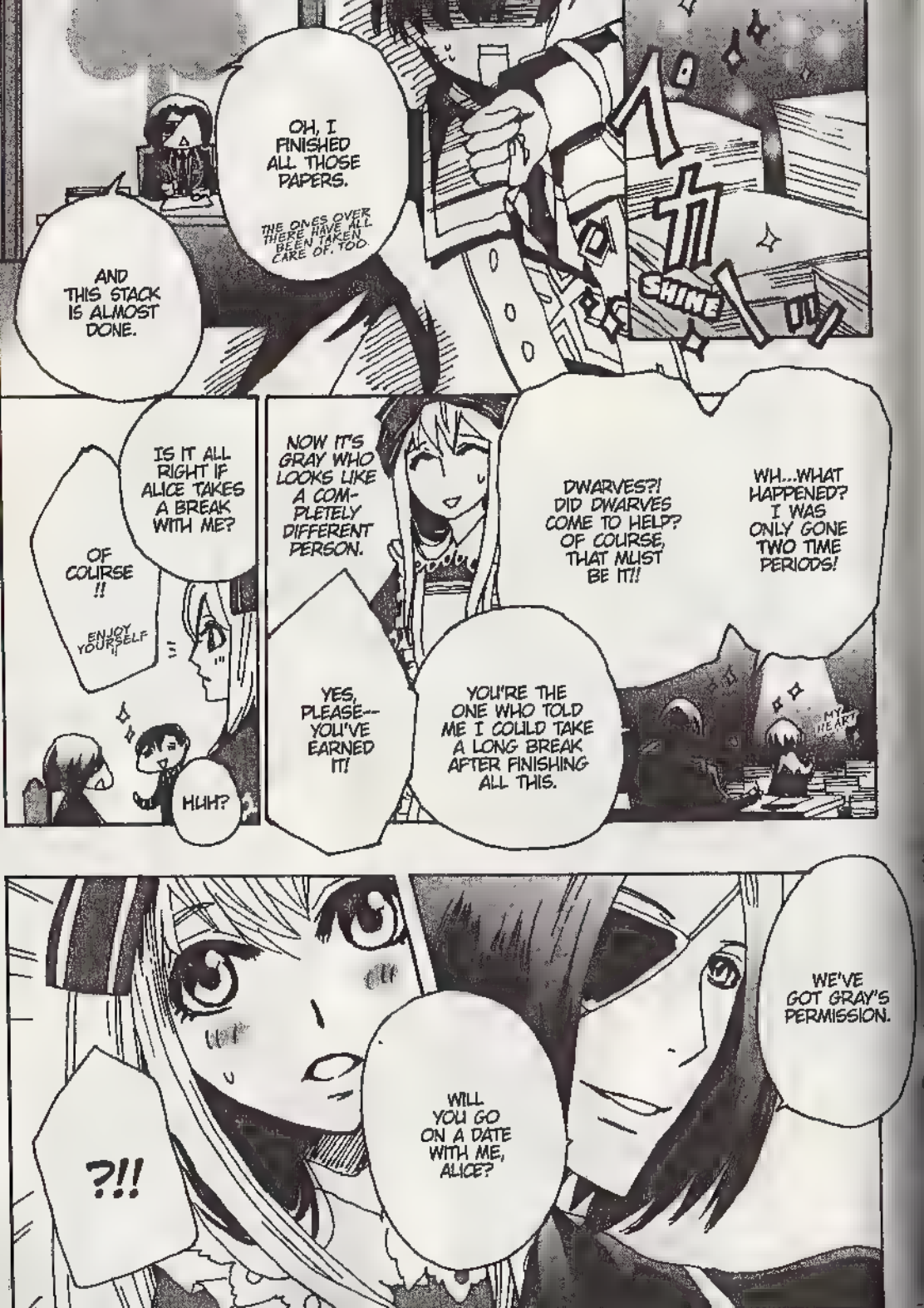

BAM
ALL READY~!
STEAM...
むわーん!!!


COUGH COUGH
TH...THIS SMELLS TERRIBLE...!
A...AND IT LOOKS SO BITTER!
COUGH
CLATTER
NOT BITTER~.
BLERGH
UGH, THAT SMELL
I'M GOING TO VOMIT.

GRAB
TH... THAT'S NOT... I WAS JUST...
THANK YOU, ALICE!!
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE OF YOU!!
.....
FINALLY THANK GOODNESS
YOU CAN THINK AS MANY COMPLAINTS ABOUT ME AS YOU WANT.
HH... UMM...
RIGHT NOW... I WANT YOU TO LET ME READ YOUR THOUGHTS.
I HAVE ONE FAVOR TO ASK YOU IN RETURN.
THA-THUMP
I CAN'T READ THE HERBALIST'S THOUGHTS.
?
YES, EVEN YOU WILL DO! LET ME READ YOUR THOUGHTS, GRAY!
YOU OWE ME!
LORD NIGHTMARE, I KNOW YOU'RE CONCERNED, BUT...
OKAY ...?
HEH...
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH
N... NIGHT-MARE ...?
CLINK
THE MOMENT OF TRUTH!
DRIP DRIP DRIP...
DOWN THE HATCH!!
GULP
CONGRATU-LATIONS...!
NOW YOU'LL FINALLY GET ALL YOUR WORK DONE!
CAN'T BELIEVE IT TOOK EFFECT SO QUICKLY!!!
MY NAUSEA IS GONE AND I DON'T FEEL ANY PAIN!! I EVEN THINK MY TEMPERATURE IS RISING!!
R... REALLY?!
WOW!
AMAZING! THIS IS AMAZING !!
AMAZING!!
GLEEEAM

WHAT'S WRONG? SO FLUSTERED.
BAM
NIGHT-MARE !!
I EXAMINED THE DREGS LEFT IN THE TEACUP, BUT...
IT WAS JUST AS LORD NIGHTMARE HAD READ FROM THE OWNER'S MIND.
IT'S PROBABLY A REACTION CAUSED BY HIS BODY'S NATURAL STATE AND THE OTHER MEDICINES HE'S TRIED.
BUT IT LOOKS LIKE THE KAMPO MEDICINE HAS FINALLY MADE HIM HEALTHY... SO LET'S JUST KEEP AN EYE ON HIM FOR NOW.
WE'LL KEEP IT A SECRET, JUST IN CASE...
AGREED.
I'M CONFUSED
THANK GOODNESS?
THANK GOOD-NESS!!
OH.
MISS ALICE.
GOOD WORK
DOESN'T HE LOOK LIKE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON TODAY?
I DIDN'T RECOGNIZE HIM WITH THAT HEALTHY GLOW
I'VE NEVER SEEN LORD NIGHTMARE LOOK SO HEALTHY.
LORD NIGHTMARE!! HE'S SO ENERGETIC...
THAT'S RIGHT. NIGHTMARE ISN'T READING MY THOUGHTS RIGHT NOW...
NO... HE CAN'T READ THEM.
.....
DDO
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
I'D LIKE... A LITTLE TIME ALONE WITH ALICE.
THAT'S ALL OF IT, CORRECT?
?
WELL... THEY SAID YOU WERE LIKE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON! I THOUGHT MAYBE YOU'D GONE CRAZY!!
N... NOTHING AT ALL...
"I SHOULDN'T HAVE SUGGESTED THAT MEDICINE."
RIGHT?
BECAUSE I--
I...
OH NO...
THANK YOU. I'LL GO AND SEE.
WELL... YES...
DASH
COULD IT BE... ANOTHER SIDE EFFECT...?!
A COM-PLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON ...?


HEH
I CAN'T ANSWER THAT. I HAVE NO IDEA.
EVEN NOW, I DON'T UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU'RE THINKING...
PROBABLY SO.
BUT...
IF WE KISSED...
MAYBE YOU'D UNDERSTAND A LITTLE...
I SEE...
NO...
THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE THINKING, RIGHT?
YOU DIDN'T NOTICE?
D...DID YOU GET YOUR POWERS BACK?!
HUH?
WH WHEN DID YOU GET SO CLOSE?!
JUST A FEW TIME PERIODS AGO, I COULD DO IT WITHOUT BATTING AN EYE.
IT FEELS STRANGE TO BE UNABLE TO DO SOMETHING THAT'S NORMALLY EFFORTLESS.
SLIDE
READING YOUR THOUGHTS AND ENTERING YOUR DREAMS...
THIS MIGHT MAKE YOU ANGRY, BUT... I WANT TO READ YOUR THOUGHTS.
BUT... I CAN'T DO IT.
THAT WAS JUST A LUCKY GUESS.
IT'S ALL AN ACT
HOW DO YOU ALWAYS UNDERSTAND THE FEELINGS OF ANOTHER?
WON'T YOU TELL ME?


AND THIS STACK IS ALMOST DONE.
OH, I FINISHED ALL THOSE PAPERS.
THE ONES OVER THERE HAVE ALL BEEN TAKEN CARE OF, TOO
SHINE
IS IT ALL RIGHT IF ALICE TAKES A BREAK WITH ME?
OF COURSE !!
ENJOY YOURSELF !!
HUH?
NOW IT'S GRAY WHO LOOKS LIKE A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT PERSON.
YES, PLEASE-- YOU'VE EARNED IT!
DWARVES?! DID DWARVES COME TO HELP? OF COURSE, THAT MUST BE IT!!
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME I COULD TAKE A LONG BREAK AFTER FINISHING ALL THIS.
WH...WHAT HAPPENED? I WAS ONLY GONE TWO TIME PERIODS!
MY HEART
?!!
WILL YOU GO ON A DATE WITH ME, ALICE?
WE'VE GOT GRAY'S PERMISSION.

IT'S THE TRUTH.
TH... THAT'S NOT ...!
IF YOU TAKE AWAY MY ABILITY TO READ MINDS, I HAVE NOTHING LEFT.
RIGHT NOW, I'M NO DIFFERENT FROM ANY OF THEM. JUST A NORMAL MAN...
CHATTER...
CHATTER...
CHATTER...
CHATTER...
CHATTER...
COULD BE THIS QUIET.
I NEVER KNEW THAT CROWDS...
I'VE ALWAY BEEN JUST LIKE YOU ARE NOW.
SOME-ONE LIKE ME...
NEVER HAD ANY-THING TO BEGIN WITH.
SLIP...

I NEVER DREAMED WE COULD SPEND TIME TOGETHER LIKE THIS...
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU KEPT HIDING AWAY IN DREAMS.
NO!
LET'S GO OUT
I WAS THINKING FOR ONCE WE COULD HAVE ONE OUTSIDE.
UNTIL NOW, WE COULD ONLY GO ON DATES INSIDE OF DREAMS!!
HA HA HA!
NOW... I'M REALLY HAPPY.
WHISPER
WHISPER
IT'S THE NIGHT-MARE...
THE NIGHT-MARE...
A LOT OF PEOPLE FEAR NIGHTMARE.
THEY LOOK AT HIM LIKE SOME KIND OF MONSTER...
BECAUSE HE CAN READ THEIR THOUGHTS.
HOW FUNNY.
LORD NIGHT-MARE.
NIGHT-MARE.
LORD NIGHT-MARE...

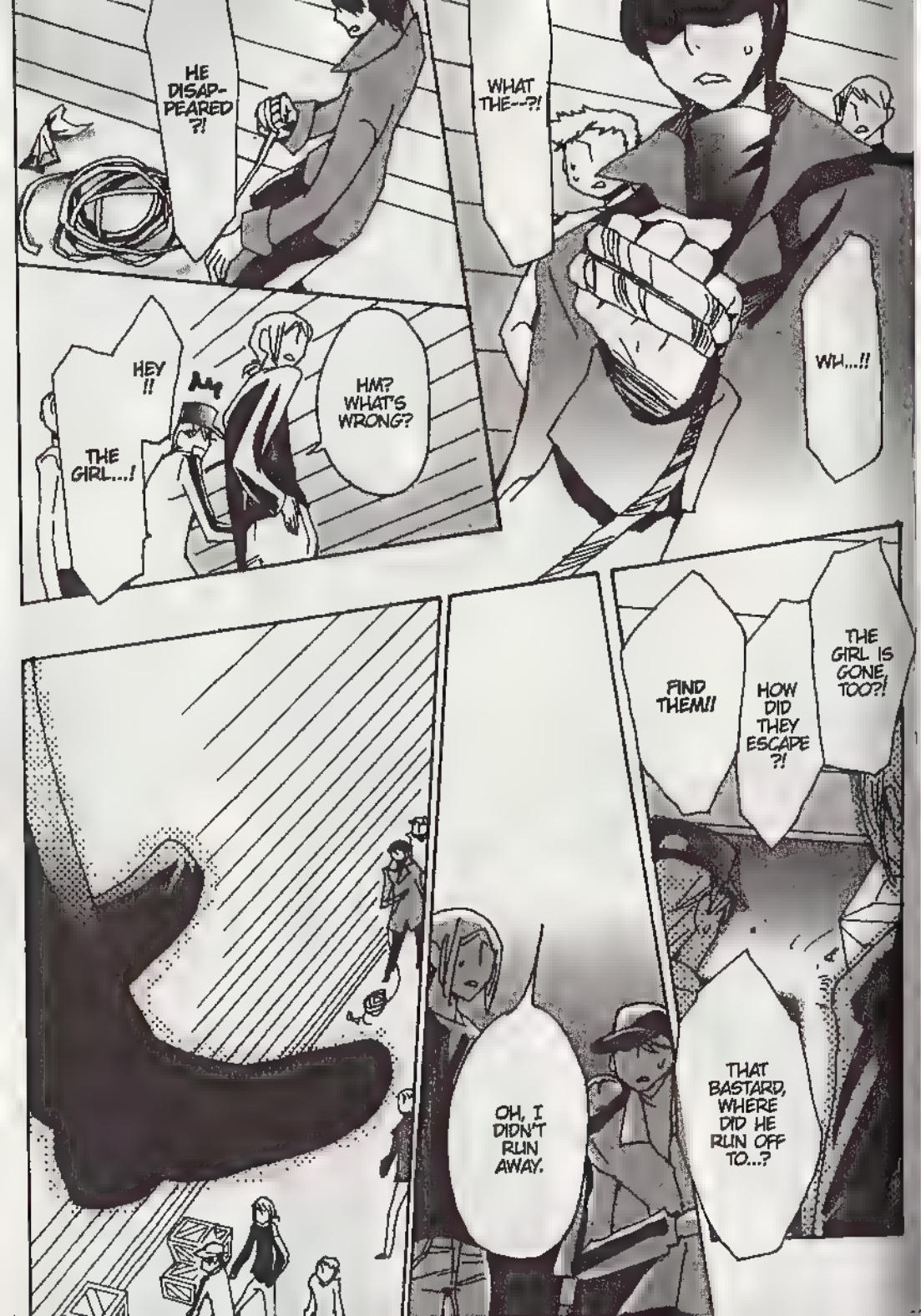
WE CAN ALL FINALLY TAKE A BREAK.
ISN'T THIS GREAT, EVERYONE?
YES!
CLICK
WITH HIM.
!!
HE SUDDENLY GOT SO STRONG AND DID SO MUCH WORK...
STILL, I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED TO LORD NIGHTMARE?
TWITCH
LORD NIGHTMARE AND MISS ALICE...!!
WHAT'S WRONG? WEREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO BE IN TOWN?
KEEPING AN EYE ON THOSE TWO
MASTER GRAY!!
WHY ARE YOU QUESTIONING OUR GOOD FORTUNE?
GOOD POINT!
PHILOSO-PHICAL.

YOUNG MAN!!
DON'T YOU START, TOO, NIGHT-MARE...!
I'M NOT CUTE!
CU...?!
BLUSH
HA HA
YOU'RE SMART, YOU'RE FEISTY, AND YOU'RE CUTE.
JUST LIKE ME?
WE CAN'T CARRY THAT MANY!
I'LL TAKE THE WHOLE CART MAAH!
THANK YOU!
HUH?
COME TO THINK OF IT, I DO HAVE TO PROPOSE TO YOU AGAIN.
CRUNCH
HOW ABOUT SOME FLOWERS FOR THE LADY?
FLOWER
OUR BUSINESS IS...
SQUEEZE
NO...
DO YOU YOUNG FELLOWS WANT SOME FLOWERS, TOO?

HUFF... HUFF...
YOU...!
TSK
EVEN THOUGH HE CAN READ MINDS, HE'S SO...
WEAK !!
AND THIS IS THAT NIGHTMARE, AFTER ALL. HE MIGHT BE HIDING OTHER ABILITIES.
THAT'S ENOUGH.
DON'T WANT TO MAKE IT TOO QUICK.
STOMP
KAH!
HACK...!
COUGH COUGH COUGH...
!!
SPLISH
WHAT HAPPENED TO THAT COCKY ATTITUDE?
WE CAUGHT YOU SO EASILY.
WHY DON'T YOU READ OUR MINDS AND SEE WHERE WE'RE GONNA STRIKE?
AW, WHAT'S WRONG ?
PULL
HIGH ...!
IS OUR CLIENT HERE YET?
GET THE ROPE.

NIGHT-MARE !!
WE SHOULD BE THANKING YOU.
BECAUSE OF YOU, WE GOT RID OF OUR THIEVING LEADER.
GOOD FOR YOU.
LOOKS LIKE I MADE A DIFFERENCE
WHAM!!
IT'S NOT GOOD AT ALL.
THWACK
SMACK
BAS-TARD...
THWACK
THUNK
DO YOU WANT TO DIE?!
YOU ROLE-HOLDERS LOOK DOWN ON US LIKE WE'RE STUPID...!
I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT... BUT I'M AN HONEST MAN, SO I CAN ONLY CALL IDIOTS WHAT THEY ARE.
PLOP...

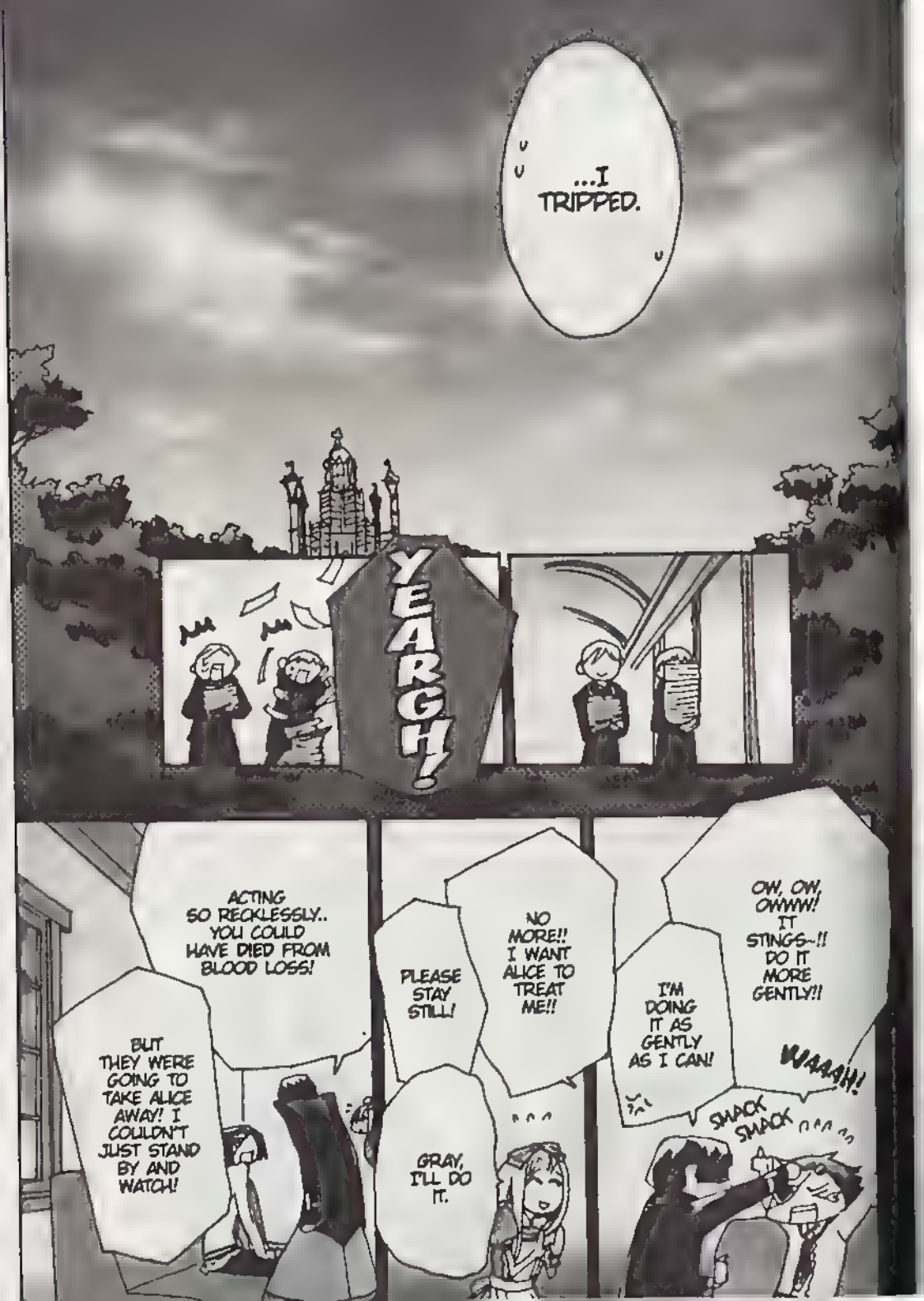
BAS... TARDS...!
GRIT
SAY, ISN'T SHE THAT OUTSIDER?
HUH, THIS GIRL? MAYBE WE COULD SELL HER TO SOME RICH MAN.
AS A PET
SHE LOOKS FAIRLY CUTE, TOO.
D...
ALICE ...!
DON'T YOU TOUCH HER !!!
I LIKE THAT IDEA.
HEH HEH
WELL, WE SHOULD GIVE HER A TRIAL RUN FIRST...
DON'T ...
HUH?
H... HAND HIM OVER ...?
STAY OUT OF THIS, MISSY.
OH, WE WON'T KILL THE GUY.
OF COURSE... I DON'T KNOW WHAT'LL HAPPEN AFTER WE HAND HIM OVER.
.....
OUCH!...
I...I WAS HOLDING BACK !!
WHOA...! EASY, THERE!! THAT'S OUR GOLDEN GOOSE!
HE'S COUGHING UP BLOOD!!
PAT
DON'T WORRY.
STOP!! HE'LL DIE!!
YOU LITTLE BITCH !!
THWACK
ARGH!
CHOMP
WHAT HAP-PENED ?
ooo
SHE BIT ME!
SHE'S JUST UNCON-SCIOUS.
WHAT SHOULD WE DO WITH HER?
WE HAVE NO BUSINESS WITH THAT WOMAN.
DO WHATEVER YOU WANT.
CRASH
ALICE !!

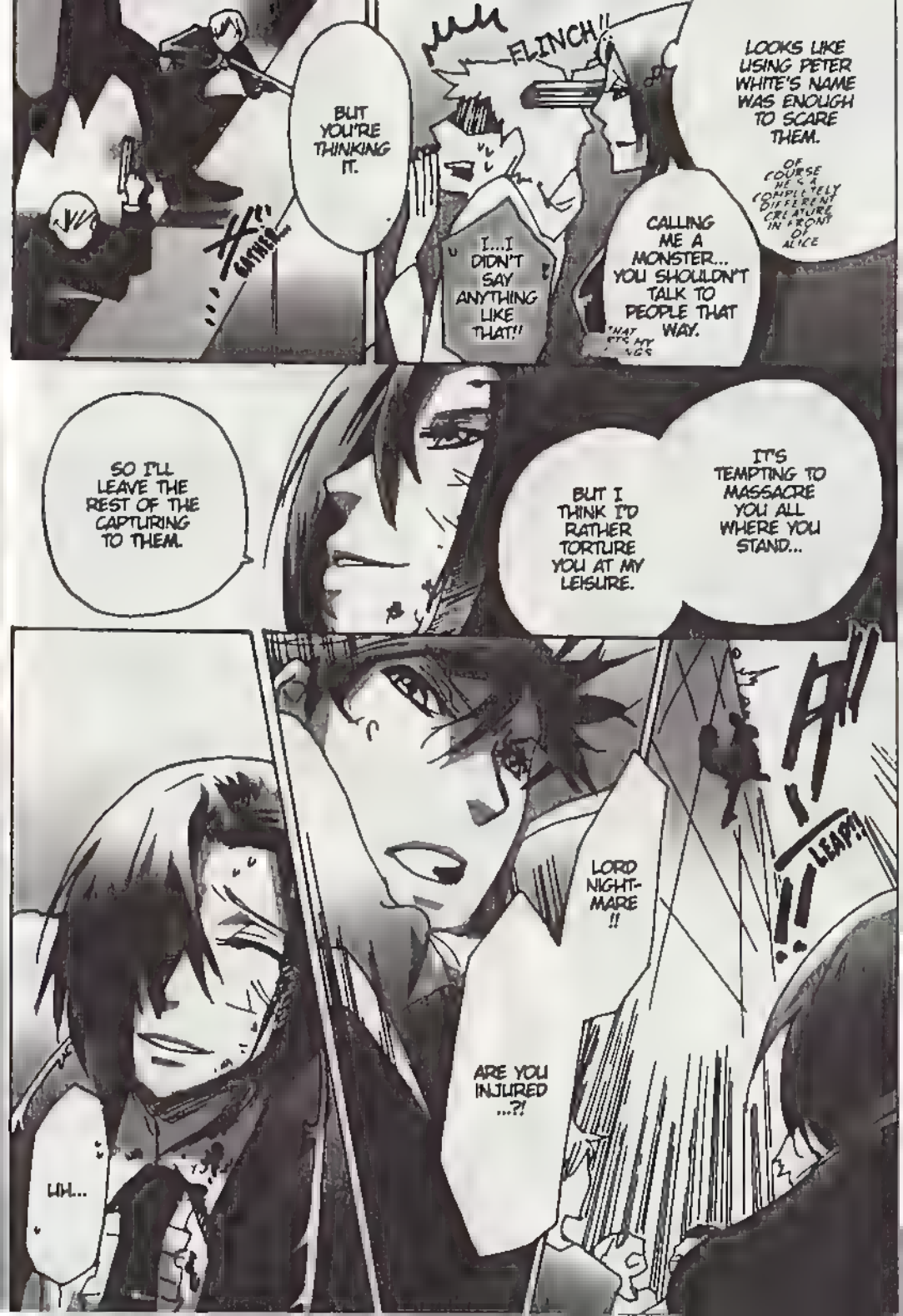

HE DISAP-PEARED ?!
WHAT THE--?!
WH...!!
HEY !!
THE GIRL...!
HM? WHAT'S WRONG?
THE GIRL IS GONE, TOO?!
HOW DID THEY ESCAPE ?!
FIND THEM!!
OH, I DIDN'T RUN AWAY.
THAT BASTARD, WHERE DID HE RUN OFF TO...?

.....?
I COULD HAVE SWORN SOMEONE WAS CALLING ME...
NIGHT-MARE...?
HEY, SAY SOME-THING.
DASH!
DID YOUR POWERS RETURN ?

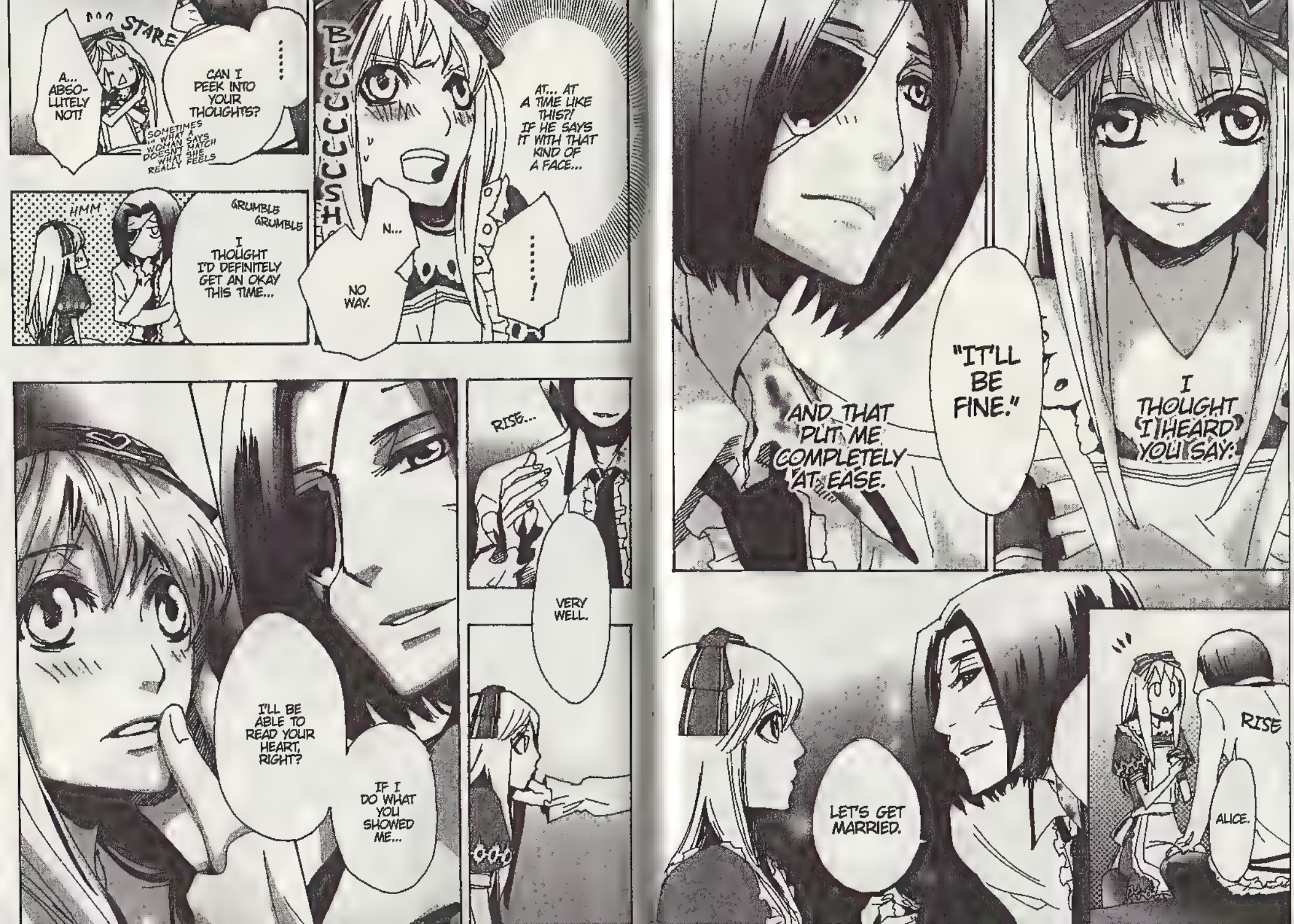
ALICE, STAY ASLEEP JUST A LITTLE BIT LONGER.
TAP
I CAME DOWN JUST FOR YOU.
LOOK
BANG!!
SH... SHOOT HIM!! SHOOT HIM!!
BANG!!
HE DISAP-PEARED AGAIN!
FWIP
YOU SHOULD TRY HARDER.
DO YOU THINK I WANT TO DIE AT THE HANDS OF A RANK AMATEUR?
THE BULLETS ARE GOING THROUGH HIM?! NO WAY!!
WHERE ...?
WHOA!
?!
YANK
WH...WHY CAN'T WE HIT HIM?!
SHUNK
HE'S A NIGHT-MARE...!!
HE'S FLOAT-ING...!
BEEK!
CALM DOWN! SO HE'S FLOATING, BIG DEAL!!
GYAK!!
C...COME DOWN, YOU MONSTER!!
FLOAT
OOPS.
BANG!!
!!!
I'M RIGHT HERE.
DON'T SHOOT SO RECK-LESSLY!!
WHAT IF YOU HIT ALICE BY ACCIDENT?
CHING

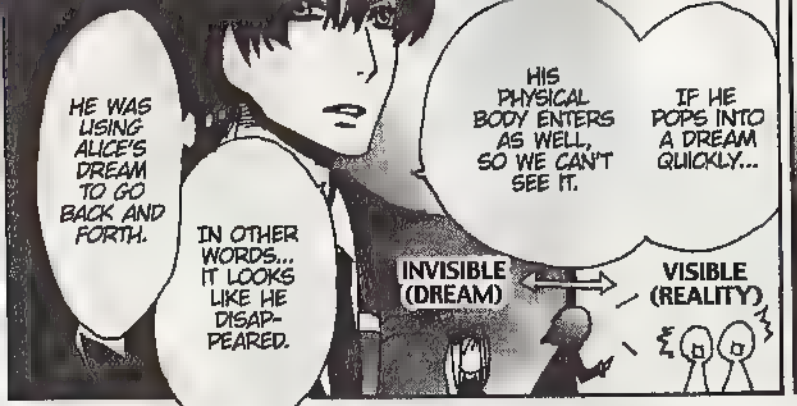
I DID AS YOU WISHED.
FWIP
PLOP...
WHERE ARE YOU TAKING OUR COMRADE?!
HOLD YOUR FIRE!! YOU'LL HIT HIM!!
DAMN!
FWAP
FLOAT...
I'LL BET YOU'VE ALWAYS WANTED TO FLY.
WHA ...?!
!BANG!!
!!
L-LET ME DOWN !!
OH, HIM? JUST AROUND SEVEN OR EIGHT STORIES STRAIGHT UP.
!!!
SPLATTER
SO NOISY... DON'T SHOOT A GUN THAT CLOSE TO MY EAR.
MINE NOW
HUH ...?
WEREN'T YOU THE ONE TALKING ABOUT A "TRIAL RUN" JUST NOW?
WHAT OF IT?
LET ME DOWN RIGHT NOW...
YES! THAT'S THE PLAN
SILENCE
HE'S WORTH A LOT OF MONEY IF WE HAND HIM OVER.
I SEE.
IDIOT. WHAT ABOUT OUR DEAL?
THIS IS BAD. SHOULDN'T WE ESCAPE WHILE WE CAN...?
WH... WHERE DID HE GO?!
I...I'M GONNA BE SICK.
URGH
CLICK
HOW MUCH?
W-WE'RE IN DEEP TROUBLE...!
NO WAY!! HIS SHOOTING SKILLS ARE FAMOUS !!
WHITE?! THE PRIME MINISTER OF HEARTS ?!
I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT I LEARNED TO SHOOT DIRECTLY FROM THE PRIME MINISTER, PETER WHITE.
OH, DON'T MOVE.
JUMP
JUMP JUMP
BOLDLY
JUMP!

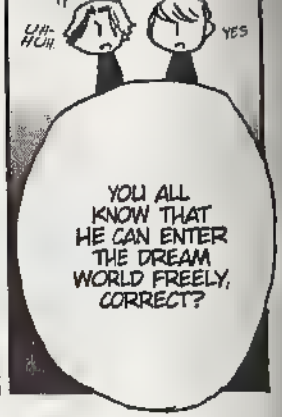

...I TRIPPED.
YEARGH!
ACTING SO RECKLESSLY.. YOU COULD HAVE DIED FROM BLOOD LOSS!
BUT THEY WERE GOING TO TAKE ALICE AWAY! I COULDN'T JUST STAND BY AND WATCH!
PLEASE STAY STILL!
NO MORE!! I WANT ALICE TO TREAT ME!!
GRAY, I'LL DO IT.
I'M DOING IT AS GENTLY AS I CAN!
OW, OW, OWWW! IT STINGS-!! DO IT MORE GENTLY!!
WAAAH!
SMACK SMACK

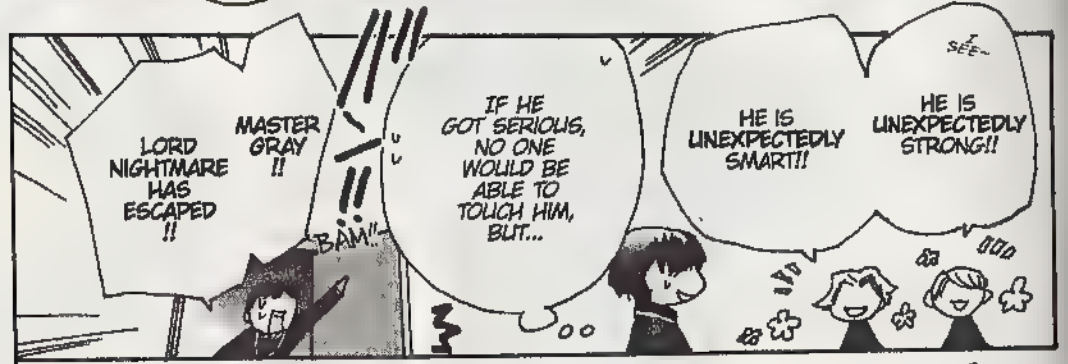

BUT YOU'RE THINKING IT.
FLINCH!!
I...I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING LIKE THAT!!
LOOKS LIKE USING PETER WHITE'S NAME WAS ENOUGH TO SCARE THEM.
OF COURSE HE'S A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT CREATURE IN FRONT OF ALICE
CALLING ME A MONSTER... YOU SHOULDN'T TALK TO PEOPLE THAT WAY.
SO I'LL LEAVE THE REST OF THE CAPTURING TO THEM.
BUT I THINK I'D RATHER TORTURE YOU AT MY LEISURE.
IT'S TEMPTING TO MASSACRE YOU ALL WHERE YOU STAND...
LEAP!!
LORD NIGHT-MARE !!
ARE YOU INJURED ...?!
UH...

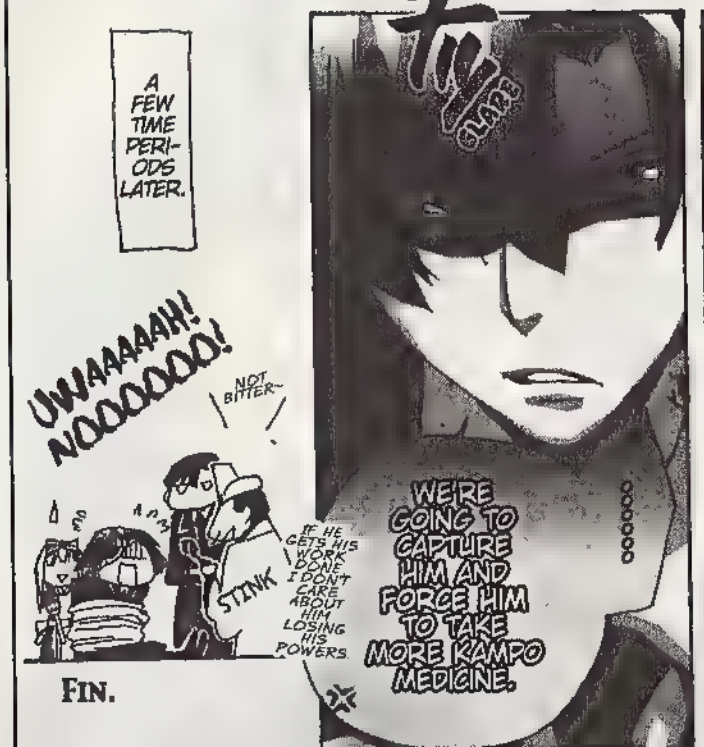
I HAD... A DREAM...
ABOUT YOU.
UGH
BUT YOU LOST YOUR STRENGTH.
NOT SURE IT'S A GOOD TRADE-OFF
HEY, MY POWERS RETURNED...
NO... TO BE MORE PRECISE...
A DREAM ABOUT SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
I WAS SO UNEASY, BUT...
I THINK... I DID HEAR SOMETHING.
I CALLED OUT YOUR NAME, BUT THERE WAS NO REPLY.
HE KEPT APPEARING AND DISAPPEARING...
ALTHOUGH I FELT HIM, I COULDN'T SEE HIM.
LORD NIGHTMAAARE!
WOBBLE...
LORD NIGHTMARE, ARE YOU INJURED...?
UH... I TRIPPED
SAVING ALICE WAS FINE!! THE PROBLEM WAS WHAT YOU DID AFTERWARDS!!
YOU COULD HAVE JUST STAYED ON THE ROOF UNTIL I GOT THERE...
BUT YOU HAD TO GO ON A RAMPAGE!
I JUST MEAN THAT HE WAS REALLY WORRIED ABOUT YOU.
HOW SO?!
GIGGLE
GRAY IS SO MEAN
HE IS SUCH A SOFTIE.
SOFTIE ?!
HIM?!
GRAY, WILL YOU WAIT OUTSIDE UNTIL I FINISH TREATING HIM?
I'LL TAKE IT FROM HERE
AH--- I'M STARTING TO FEEL SICK. GOING TO VOMIT...
BLEARGH
ONCE THE EFFECTS OF THE KAMPO MEDICINE WORE OFF, YOU SHOULD HAVE CHOSEN YOUR ACTIONS MORE CAREFULLY!
NAG NAG NAG
THE MEDICINE WORE OFF AT A REALLY BAD TIME.
STROKE...
HE'S ALWAYS LIKE THAT...

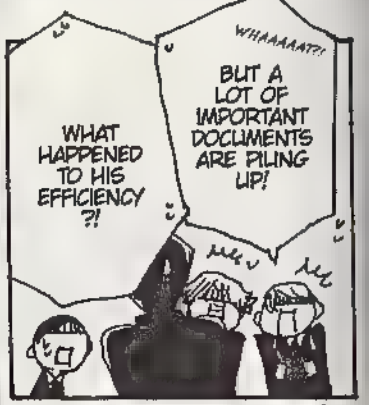

STARE
A... ABSO-LUTELY NOT!
CAN I PEEK INTO YOUR THOUGHTS?
.....
SOMETIMES ... WHAT A WOMAN SAYS DOESN'T MATCH WHAT SHE REALLY FEELS
HMM
GRUMBLE GRUMBLE
I THOUGHT I'D DEFINITELY GET AN OKAY THIS TIME...
BLCCCCCCH
N...
NO WAY.
AT... AT A TIME LIKE THIS?! IF HE SAYS IT WITH THAT KIND OF A FACE...
.....!
I'LL BE ABLE TO READ YOUR HEART, RIGHT?
IF I DO WHAT YOU SHOWED ME...
RISE...
VERY WELL.
AND THAT PUT ME COMPLETELY AT EASE.
"IT'LL BE FINE."
I THOUGHT I HEARD YOU SAY:
LET'S GET MARRIED.
RISE
ALICE.

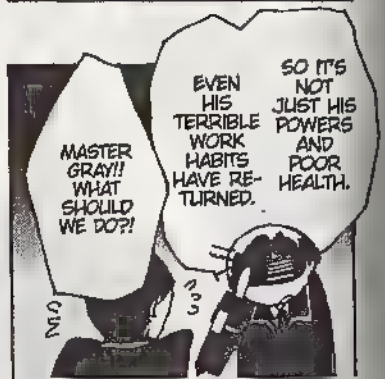

HE WAS USING ALICE'S DREAM TO GO BACK AND FORTH.
IN OTHER WORDS... IT LOOKS LIKE HE DISAP-PEARED.
HIS PHYSICAL BODY ENTERS AS WELL, SO WE CAN'T SEE IT.
IF HE POPS INTO A DREAM QUICKLY...
INVISIBLE (DREAM)
VISIBLE (REALITY)


UH-HUH
YES
YOU ALL KNOW THAT HE CAN ENTER THE DREAM WORLD FREELY, CORRECT?

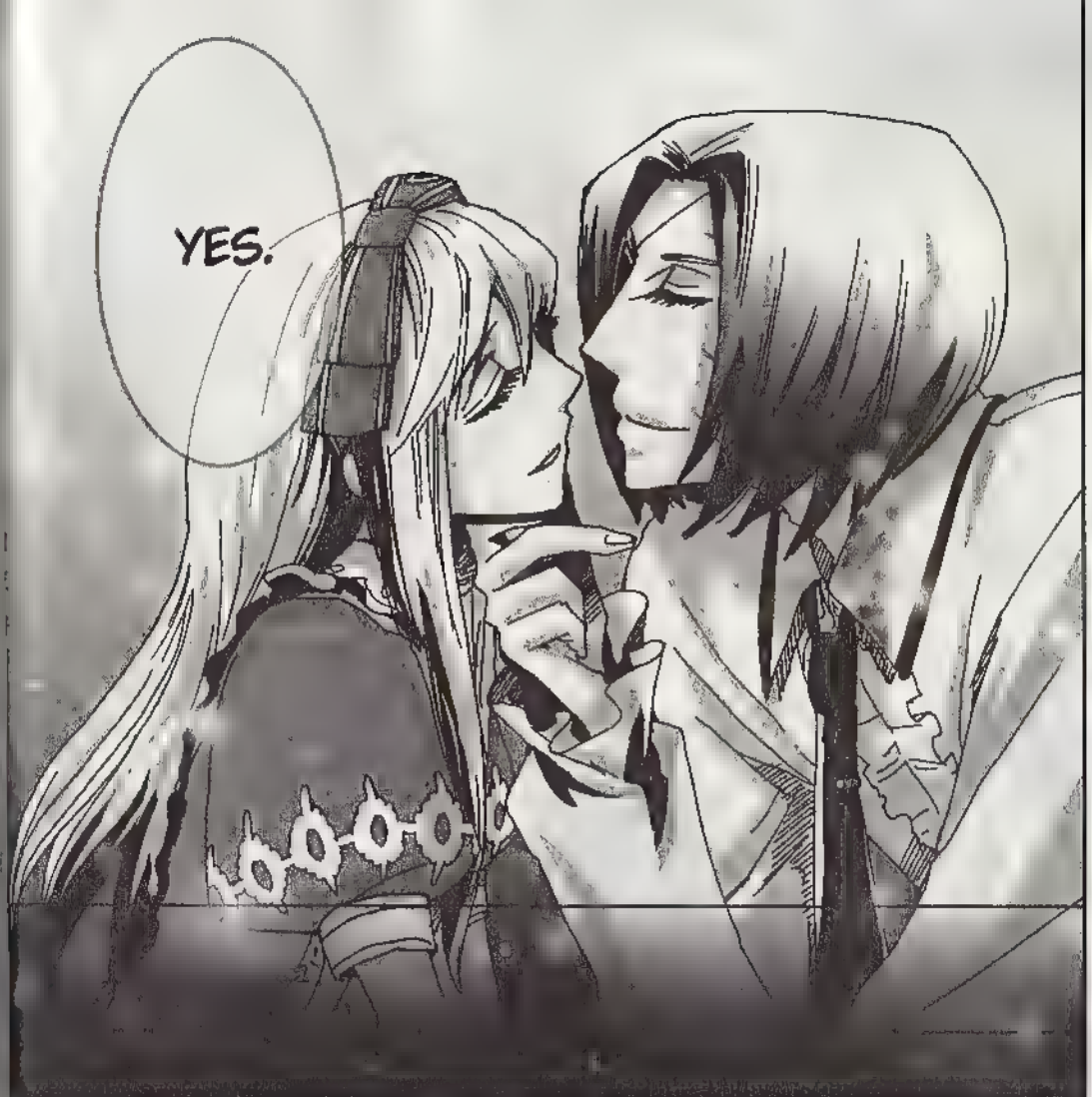

LORD NIGHTMARE HAS ESCAPED !!
MASTER GRAY !!
BAM!!
IF HE GOT SERIOUS, NO ONE WOULD BE ABLE TO TOUCH HIM, BUT...
HE IS UNEXPECTEDLY SMART!!
I SEE...
HE IS UNEXPECTEDLY STRONG!!

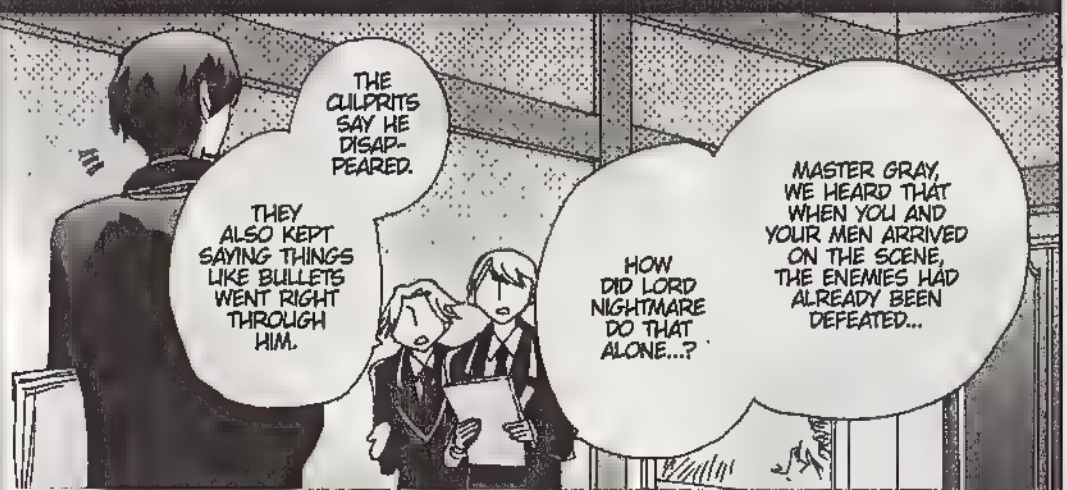

A FEW TIME PERI-ODS LATER.
UWAAAAAH! NOOOOOO!
NOT BITTER
STINK
IF HE GETS HIS WORK DONE I DON'T CARE ABOUT HIM LOSING HIS POWERS
GLARE
WE'RE GOING TO CAPTURE HIM AND FORCE HIM TO TAKE MORE KAMPO MEDICINE.

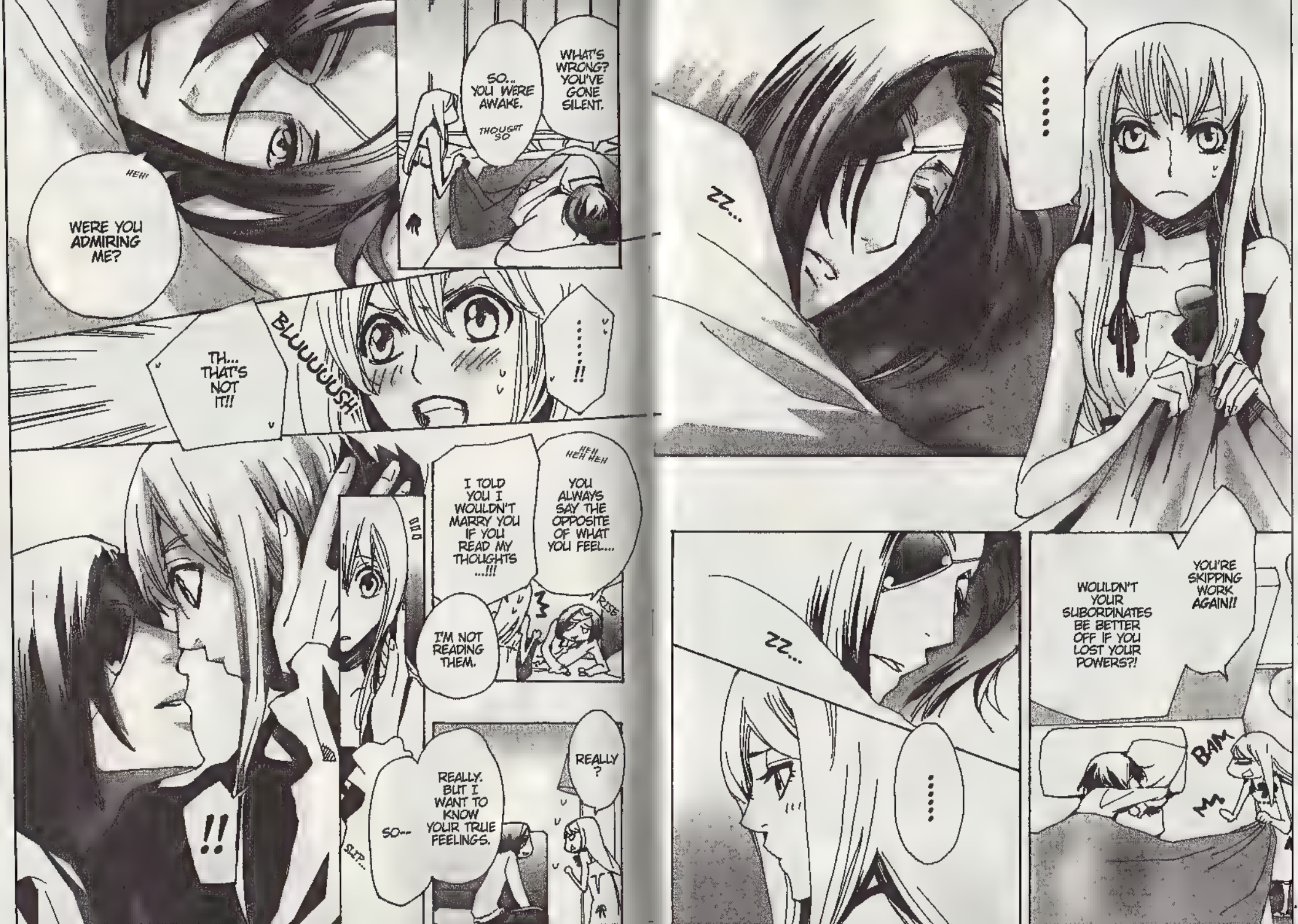

WHAAAAAT?!
BUT A LOT OF IMPORTANT DOCUMENTS ARE PILING UP!
WHAT HAPPENED TO HIS EFFICIENCY ?!

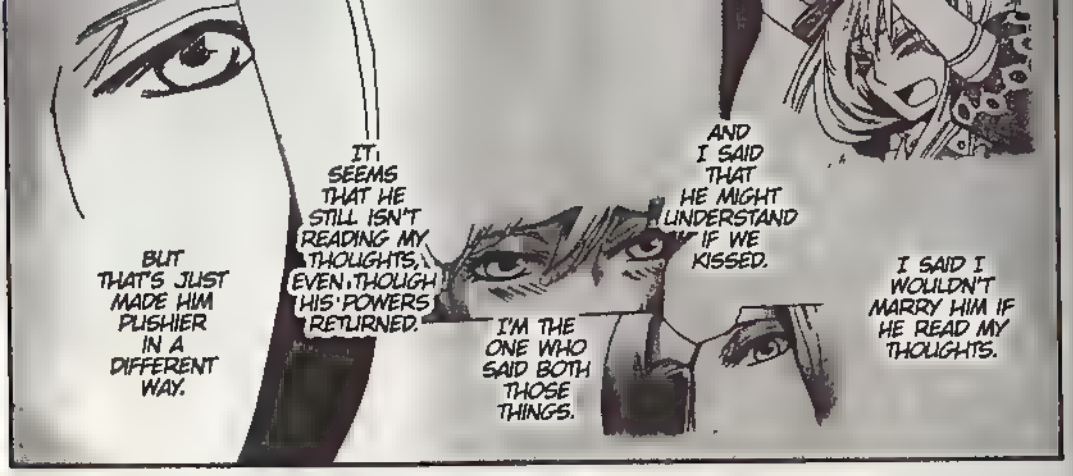

MASTER GRAY!! WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!
EVEN HIS TERRIBLE WORK HABITS HAVE RE-TURNED.
SO IT'S NOT JUST HIS POWERS AND POOR HEALTH.

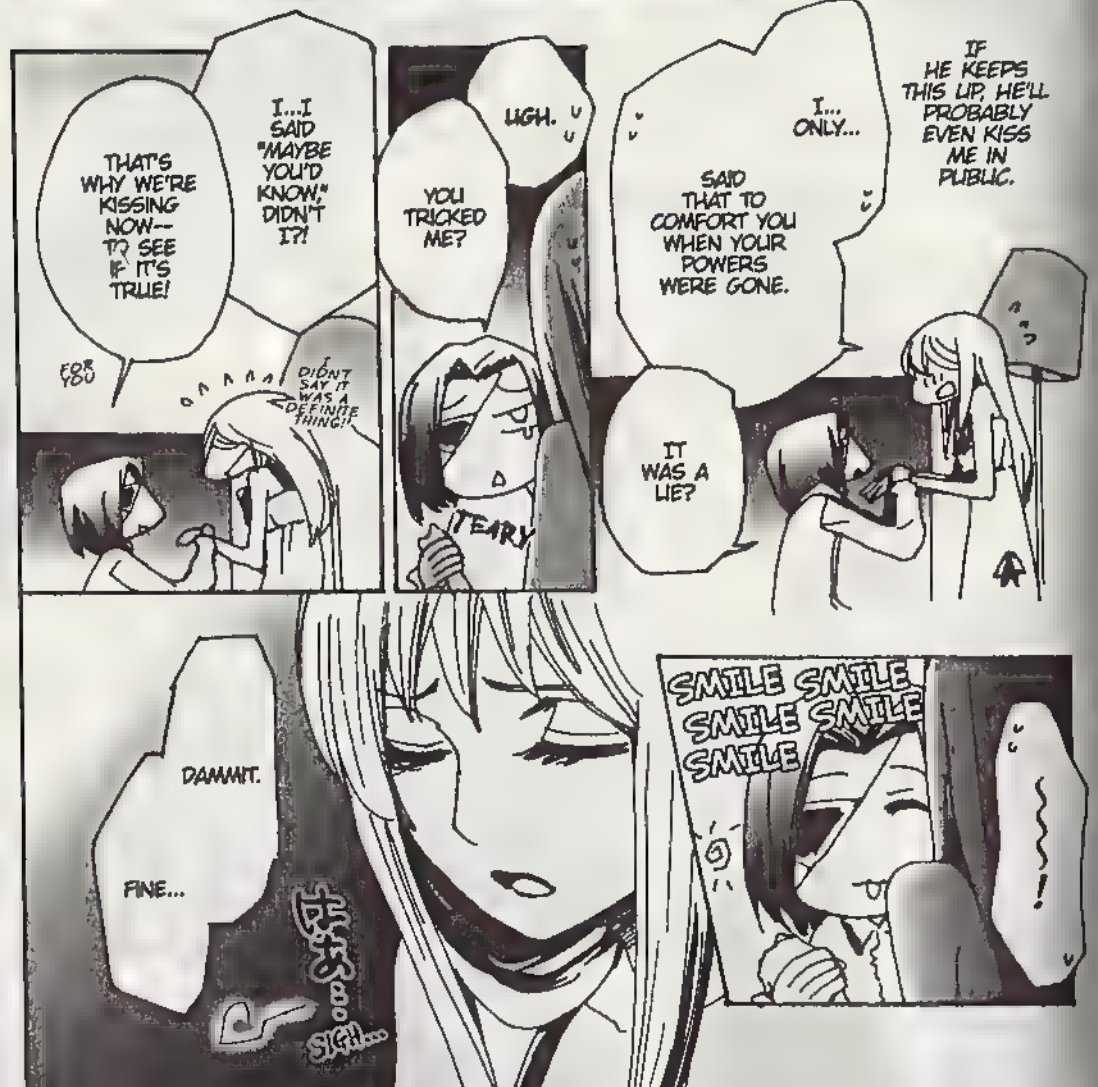
FIN.

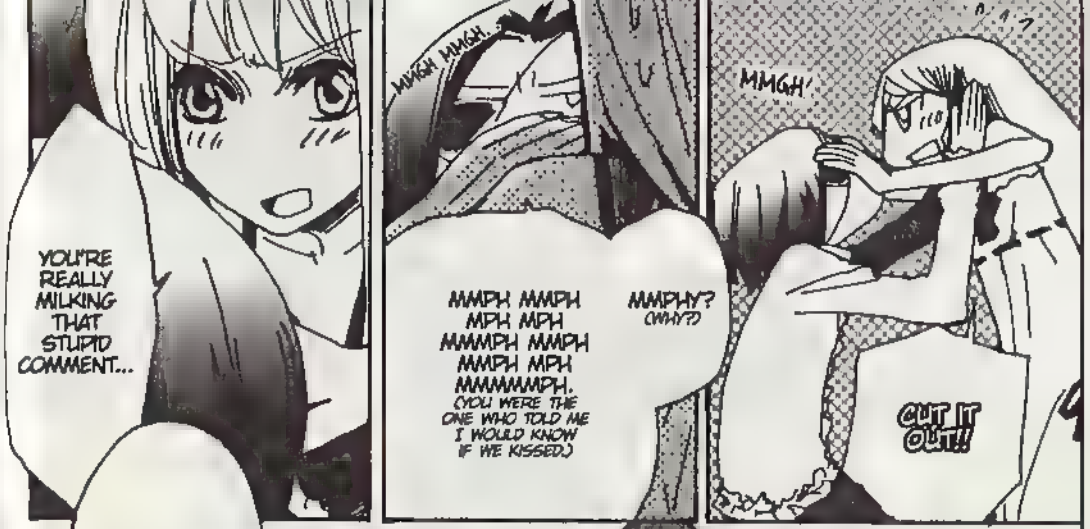

YES.

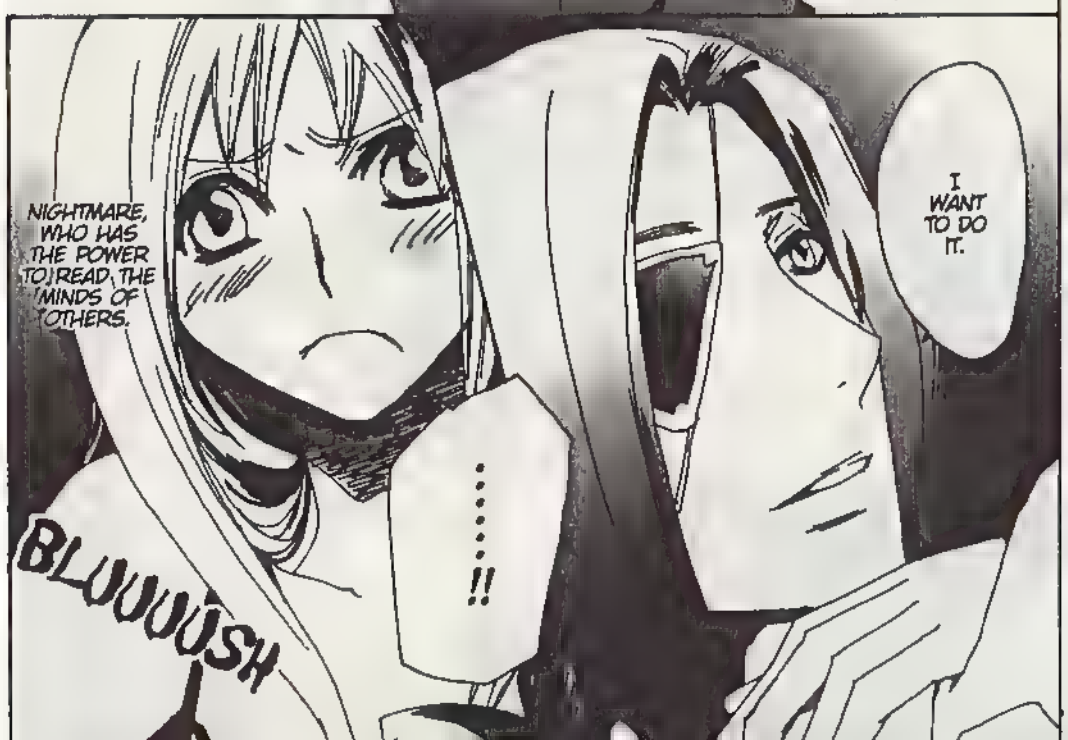

THE CULPRITS SAY HE DISAP-PEARED.
THEY ALSO KEPT SAYING THINGS LIKE BULLETS WENT RIGHT THROUGH HIM.
HOW DID LORD NIGHTMARE DO THAT ALONE...?
MASTER GRAY, WE HEARD THAT WHEN YOU AND YOUR MEN ARRIVED ON THE SCENE, THE ENEMIES HAD ALREADY BEEN DEFEATED...


WHAT'S WRONG? YOU'VE GONE SILENT.
SO... YOU WERE AWAKE.
THOUGHT SO
HEH!
WERE YOU ADMIRING ME?
TH... THAT'S NOT IT!!
BLUUUUUSH
!!
I TOLD YOU I WOULDN'T MARRY YOU IF YOU READ MY THOUGHTS ...!!!
HEH HEH HEH
YOU ALWAYS SAY THE OPPOSITE OF WHAT YOU FEEL...
I'M NOT READING THEM.
RISE
!!
SO--
REALLY. BUT I WANT TO KNOW YOUR TRUE FEELINGS.
SLT...
REALLY ?
ZZ...
ZZ...
WOULDN'T YOUR SUBORDINATES BE BETTER OFF IF YOU LOST YOUR POWERS?!
YOU'RE SKIPPING WORK AGAIN!!
BAM

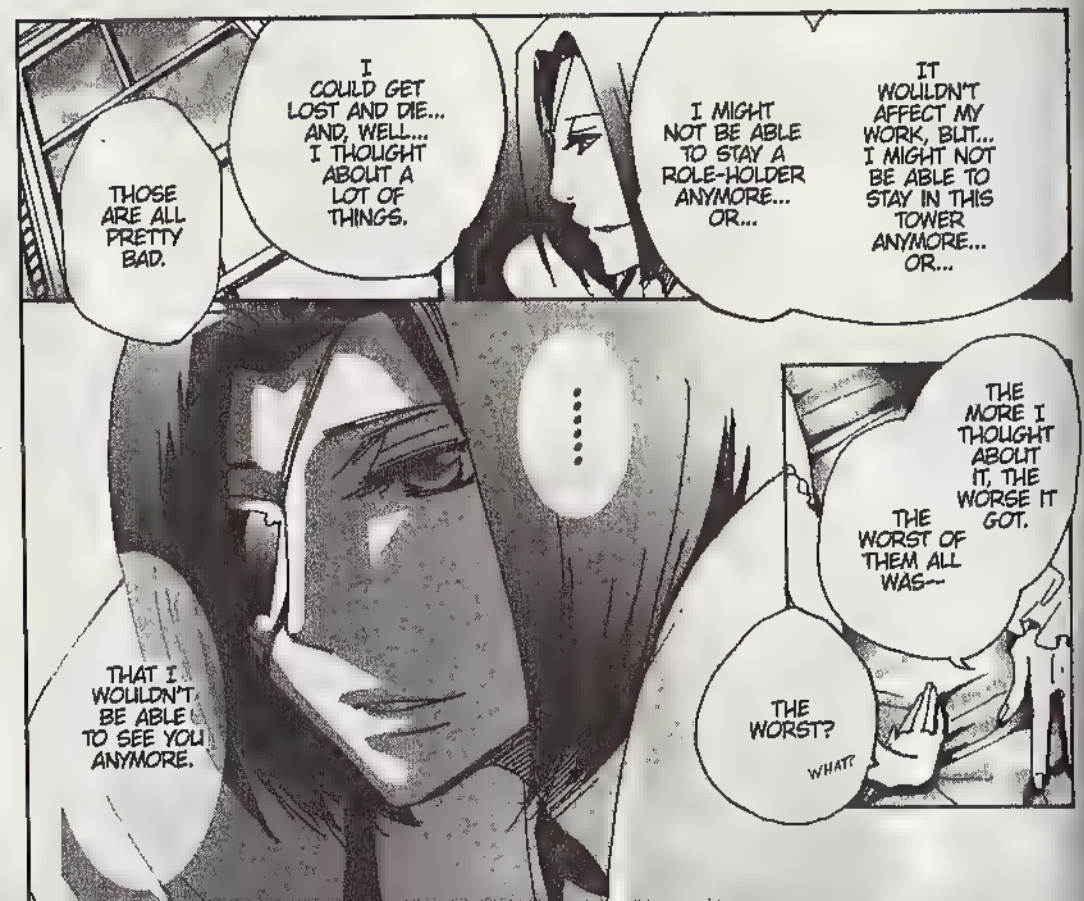

BUT THAT'S JUST MADE HIM PUSHIER IN A DIFFERENT WAY.
IT SEEMS THAT HE STILL ISN'T READING MY THOUGHTS, EVEN THOUGH HIS POWERS RETURNED.
I'M THE ONE WHO SAID BOTH THOSE THINGS.
AND I SAID THAT HE MIGHT UNDERSTAND IF WE KISSED.
I SAID I WOULDN'T MARRY HIM IF HE READ MY THOUGHTS.


THAT'S WHY WE'RE KISSING NOW-- TO SEE IF IT'S TRUE!
I...I SAID "MAYBE YOU'D KNOW," DIDN'T I?!
I DIDN'T SAY IT WAS A DEFINITE THING!!
UGH.
YOU TRICKED ME?
TEARY
I... ONLY... SAID THAT TO COMFORT YOU WHEN YOUR POWERS WERE GONE.
IT WAS A LIE?
IF HE KEEPS THIS UP, HE'LL PROBABLY EVEN KISS ME IN PUBLIC.
DAMMIT.
FINE...
SIGH...
SMILE SMILE SMILE SMILE SMILE
!


YOU'RE REALLY MILKING THAT STUPID COMMENT...
I'LL DO IT AS MANY TIMES AS IT TAKES.
MMGH MMGH...
MMPH MMPH MPH MPH MMMPH MMPH MMPH MPH MMMMMMPH. (YOU WERE THE ONE WHO TOLD ME I WOULD KNOW IF WE KISSED.)
MMPHY? (WHY?)
MMGH
CUT IT OUT!!
!!

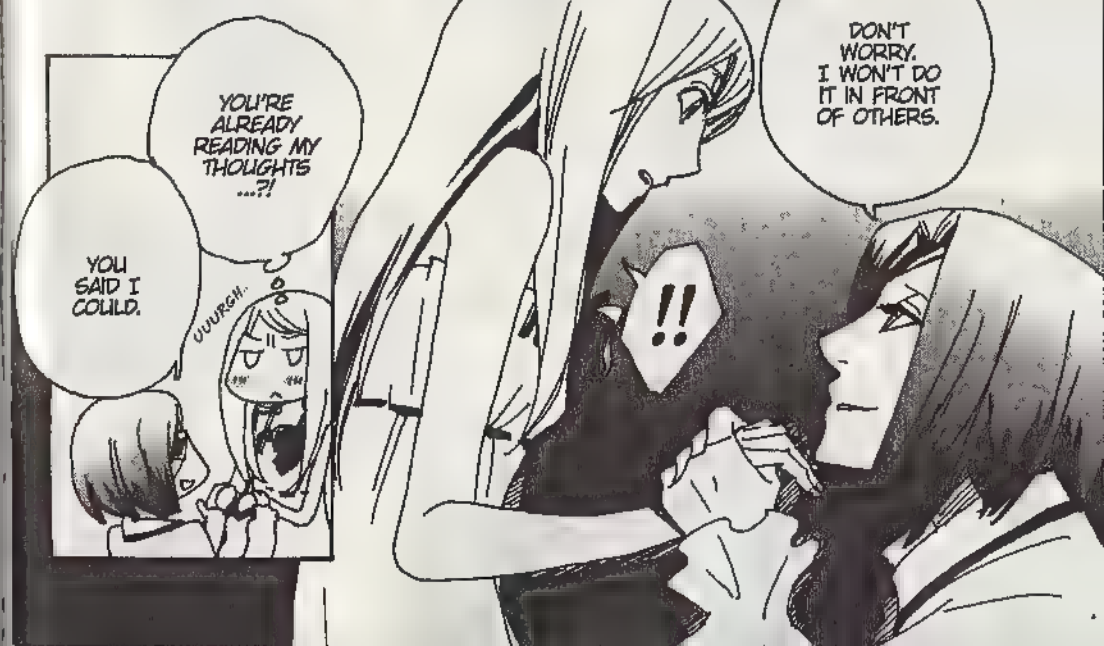

NIGHTMARE, WHO HAS THE POWER TO READ THE MINDS OF OTHERS.
I WANT TO DO IT.
BLUUUSH
!!

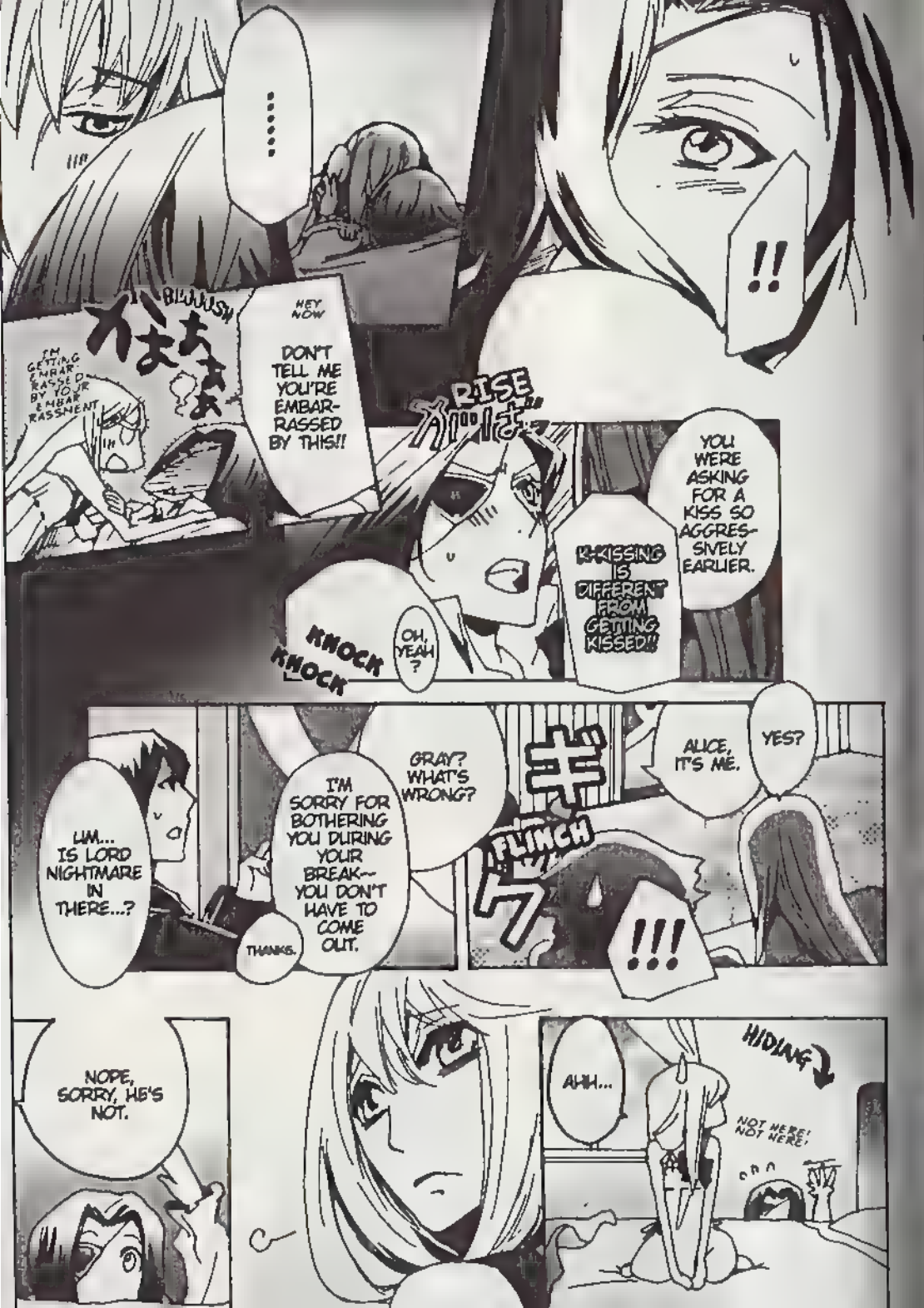
WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IN THAT CASE?
YES.
YOU MEAN... THAT YOUR POWERS MIGHT NEVER RETURN?
I WAS WORRIED, YOU KNOW?
YOU SOUND LIKE YOU'RE IN A BAD MOOD.
SIGH...
THANKS A LOT!
AS I SUSPECTED, YOUR THOUGHTS ARE SO COMFORTING.
CREAK...


THOSE ARE ALL PRETTY BAD.
I COULD GET LOST AND DIE... AND, WELL... I THOUGHT ABOUT A LOT OF THINGS.
I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO STAY A ROLE-HOLDER ANYMORE... OR...
IT WOULDN'T AFFECT MY WORK, BUT... I MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO STAY IN THIS TOWER ANYMORE... OR...
THAT I WOULDN'T BE ABLE TO SEE YOU ANYMORE.
.....
THE WORST?
WHAT?
THE WORST OF THEM ALL WAS---
THE MORE I THOUGHT ABOUT IT, THE WORSE IT GOT.

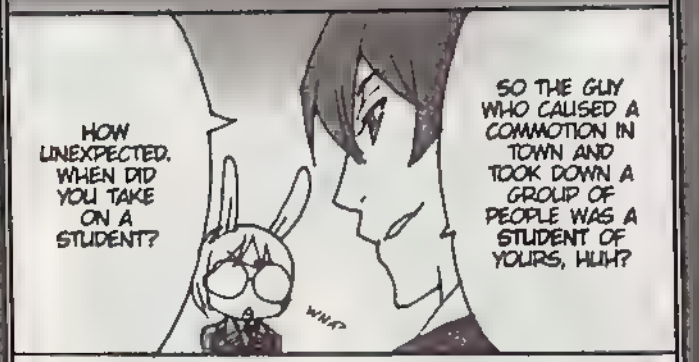
SO YOU HATE THE IDEA OF KISSING ME EVEN MORE?
BUT...
I STILL HATE THE IDEA!
WHY? YOU WERE SO STRONGLY AGAINST IT.
GO AHEAD AND READ MY THOUGHTS.
HM?

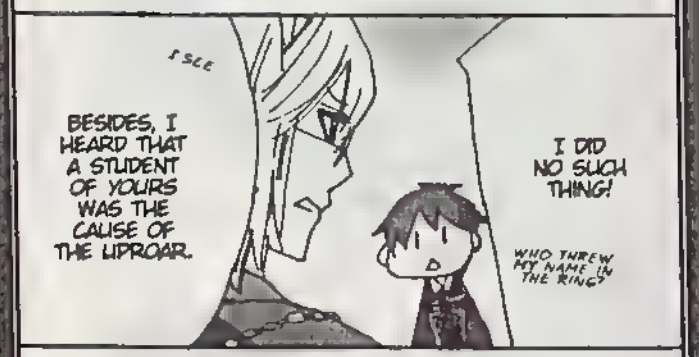
OHHH.
TH... THAT'S NOT IT...!
IT'S JUST...!
GLOOM

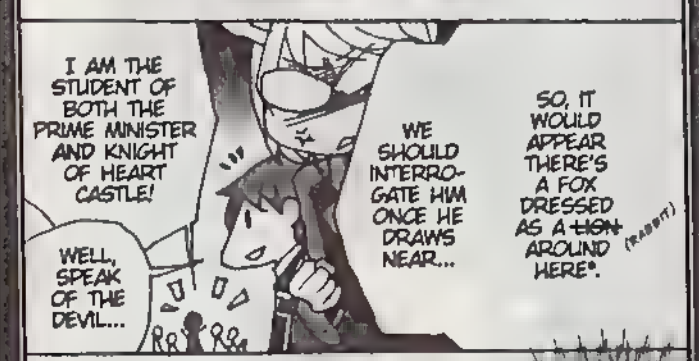

YOU SAID I COULD.
YOU'RE ALREADY READING MY THOUGHTS ...?!
UUUURGH.
DON'T WORRY. I WON'T DO IT IN FRONT OF OTHERS.
!!

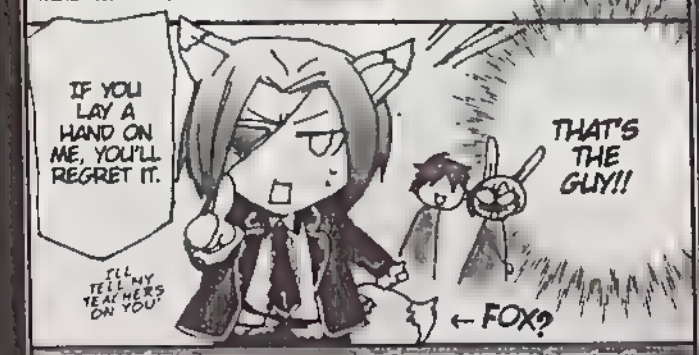

.....
!!
I'M GETTING EMBARRASSED BY YOUR EMBARRASSMENT
BLUSH
HEY, NOW
DON'T TELL ME YOU'RE EMBARRASSED BY THIS!!
RISE
KNOCK KNOCK
OH, YEAH?
YOU WERE ASKING FOR A KISS SO AGGRESSIVELY EARLIER.
K-KISSING IS DIFFERENT FROM GETTING KISSED!!
LIM... IS LORD NIGHTMARE IN THERE...?
THANKS.
I'M SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU DURING YOUR BREAK-- YOU DON'T HAVE TO COME OUT.
GRAY? WHAT'S WRONG?
ALICE, IT'S ME.
YES?
FLINCH
!!!
NOPE, SORRY, HE'S NOT.
AHH...
HIDING
NOT HERE! NOT HERE!

HOW CAN YOU BE SO CYNICAL?!
YOU'RE ALMOST AS BAD AS I AM!
SO MEAN!
THAT HURT!!
PUSH
YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY CARE THAT MUCH ABOUT HOLDING A ROLE!
GRAB
N...NO... BUT THAT'S ONE OF THE RULES WE HAVE TO FOLLOW IN THIS WORLD.
SADDLE
YOU REALLY ARE PATHETIC.
BUT...
ALICE...
MMM
THWACK
GUH!
HA HA
JUST KIDDING.
.....
THEN BREAK THOSE RULES.

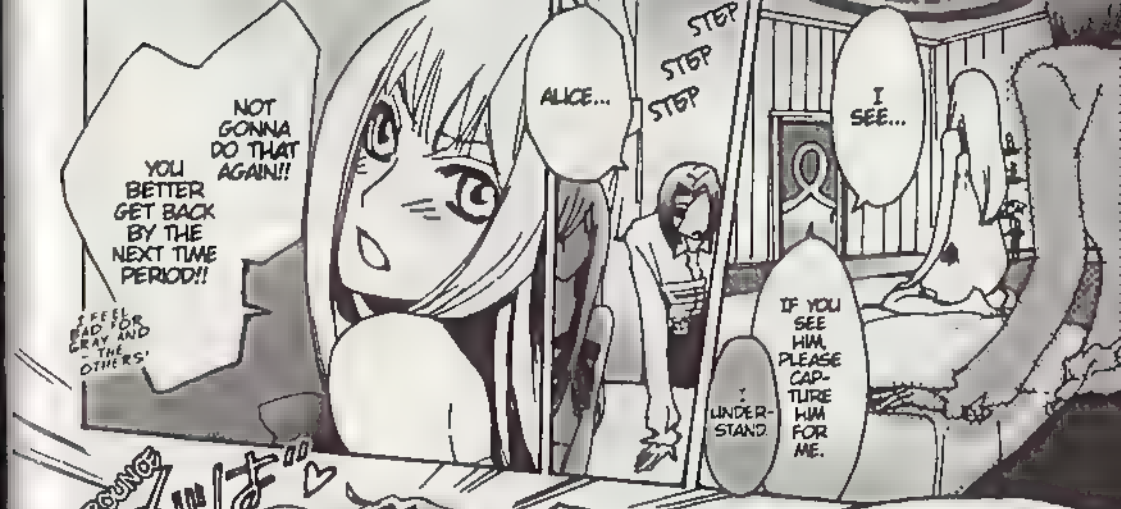

HOW UNEXPECTED. WHEN DID YOU TAKE ON A STUDENT?
WHAT?
SO THE GUY WHO CAUSED A COMMOTION IN TOWN AND TOOK DOWN A GROUP OF PEOPLE WAS A STUDENT OF YOURS, HUH?

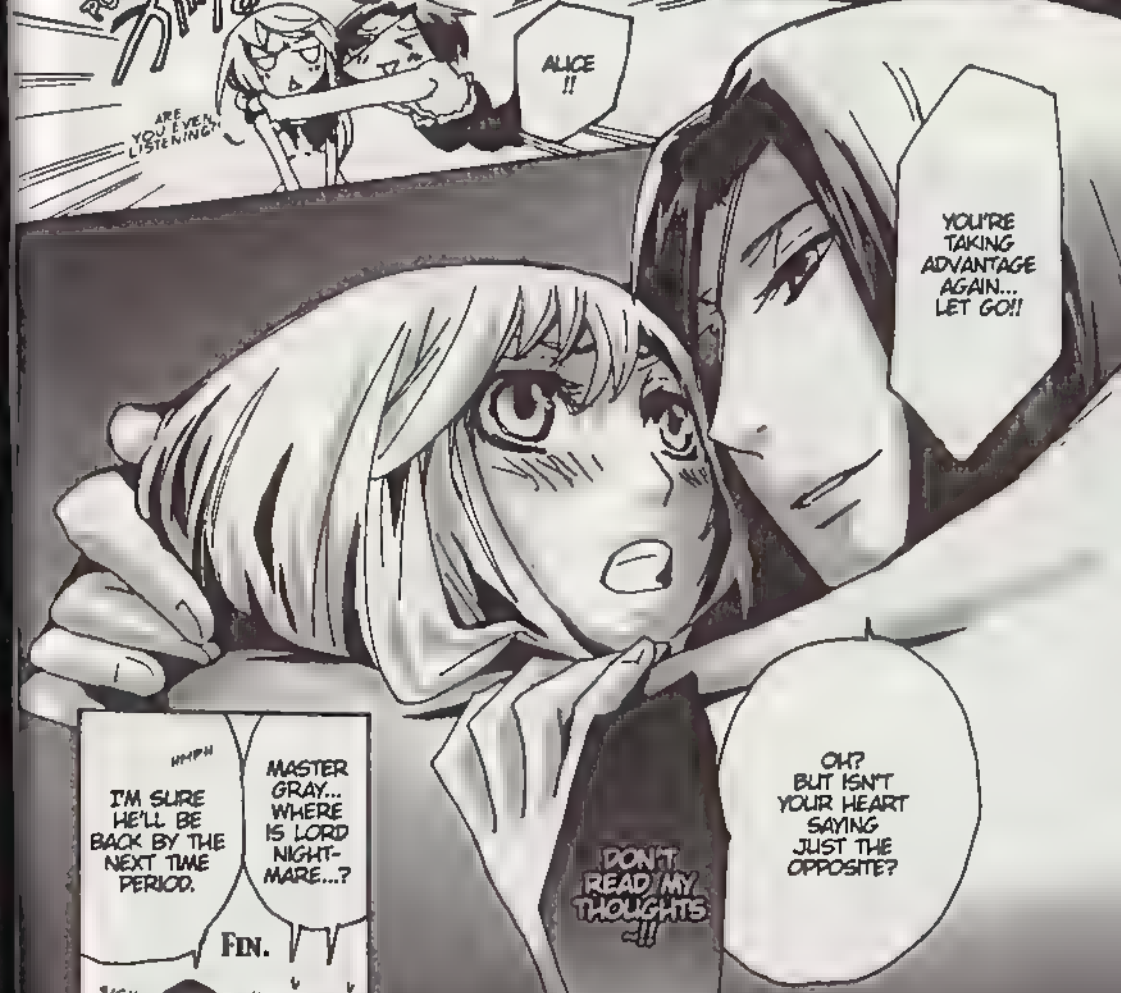



I AM THE STUDENT OF BOTH THE PRIME MINISTER AND KNIGHT OF HEART CASTLE!
WELL, SPEAK OF THE DEVIL...
WE SHOULD INTERROGATE HIM ONCE HE DRAWS NEAR...
SO, IT WOULD APPEAR THERE'S A FOX DRESSED AS A ~~HIGH~~ RABBIT AROUND HERE*.

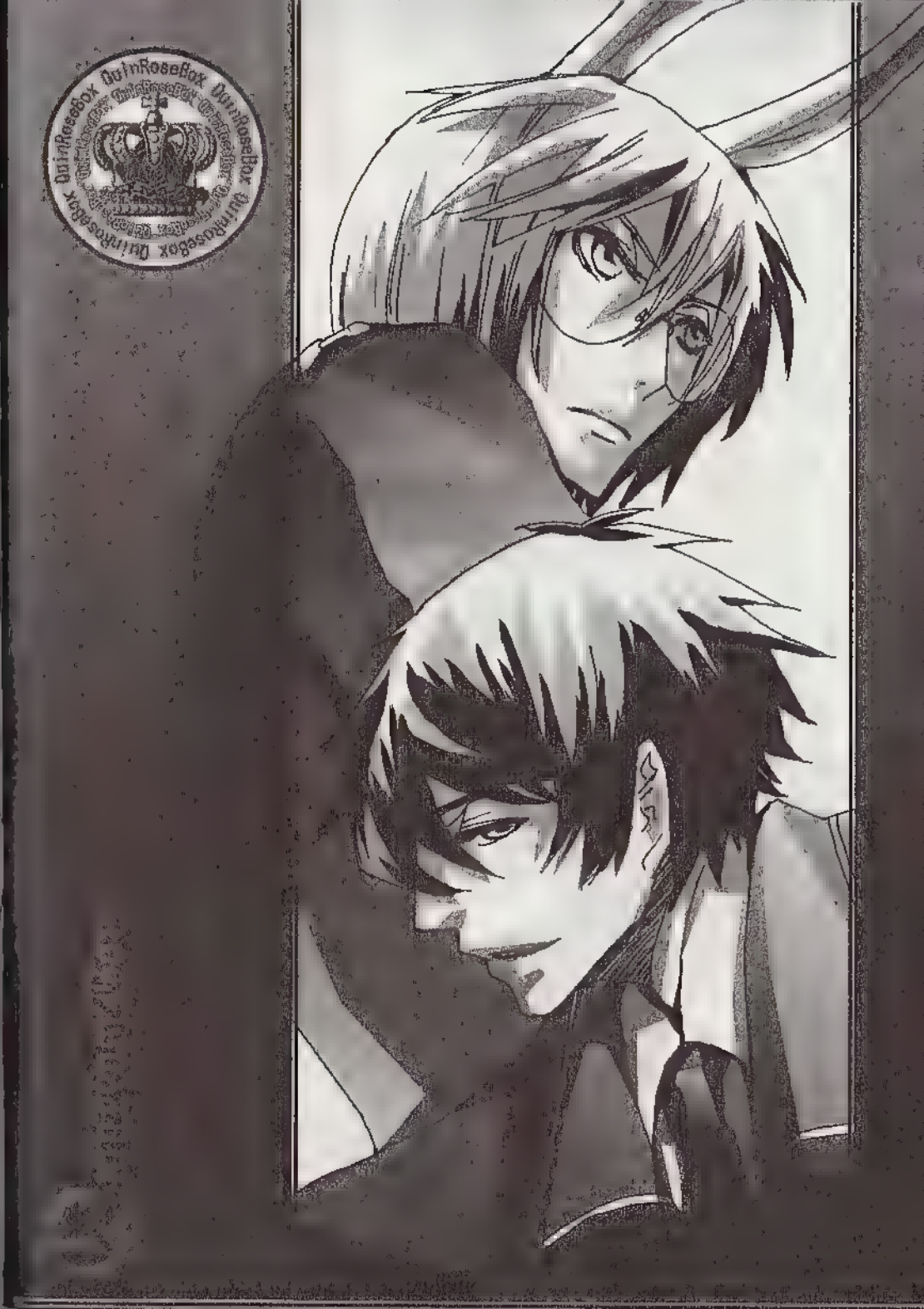


*The expression "a fox is dressed as a rabbit" means someone is pretending to be something they're not. It's similar to the expression "putting on sheep's clothing."


ALICE...
STEP STEP STEP
I SEE...
NOT GONNA DO THAT AGAIN!!
YOU BETTER GET BACK BY THE NEXT TIME PERIOD!!
I FEEL BAD FOR GRAY AND THE OTHERS'
I UNDERSTAND.
IF YOU SEE HIM, PLEASE CAPTURE HIM FOR ME.

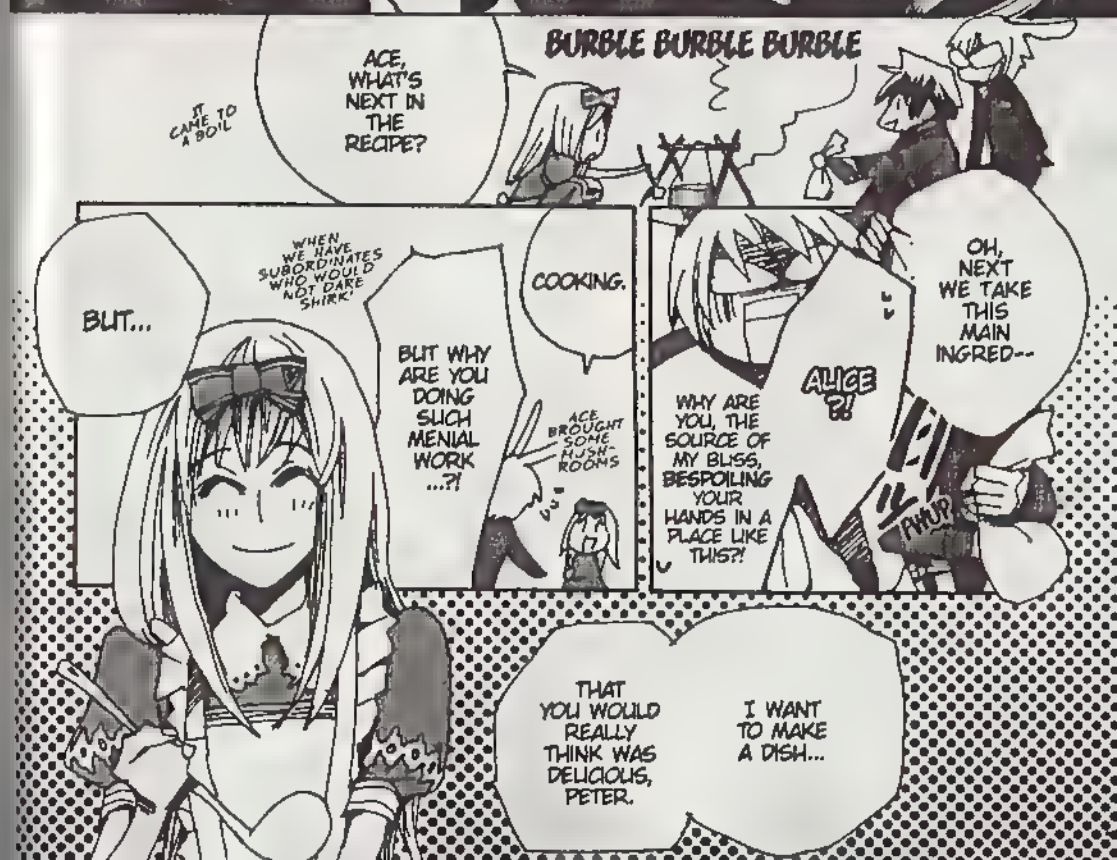

POUNCE
ALICE!!
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?
YOU'RE TAKING ADVANTAGE AGAIN... LET GO!!
OH? BUT ISN'T YOUR HEART SAYING JUST THE OPPOSITE?
DON'T READ MY THOUGHTS!!

BURBLE
BURBLE
BURBLE
BURBLE
BURBLE
BURBLE
BURBLE
WOW.
SO THE PRIME MINISTER ACTUALLY EATS FOOD?
WHAT'S THAT SUPPOSED TO MEAN?
truffe
HA HA HA!
COME ON. THAT GUY LOOKS LIKE HE DOESN'T BLEED OR CRY.
OR EAT OR SLEEP
WHOA... NOW THAT I'D LIKE TO SEE.
WELL, I KNOW HE CRIES, AT LEAST.
AND WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO SEE, ACE, IS YOUR BLOOD.

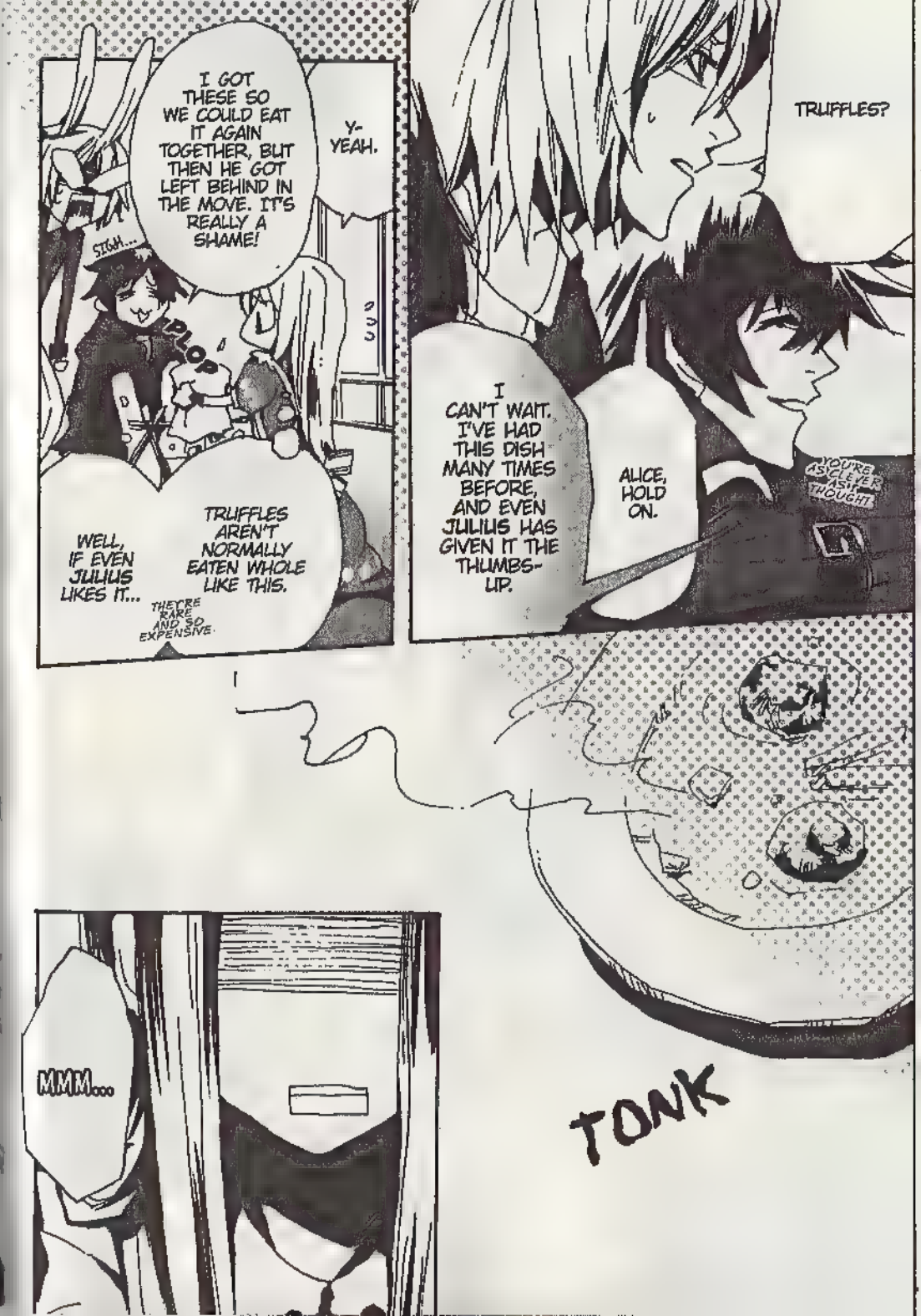

DuinRoseBox

MY MARVELOUS ALICE MADE THIS JUST FOR ME!!
PAZ
WHAT?
Y... YOU'RE DOING IT FOR ME?!
ACE, DID YOU HEAR?! ACE, CAN YOU SEE?!
SO... THIS GOES IN NOW?
YEAH, THESE MUSHROOMS ARE THE KEY TO THE WHOLE DISH.
YUP, JUST THROW IT ALL IN.
HEY...! ARE YOU ADDING SOMETHING WEIRD TO THIS DISH?!
I KNOW YOU CAN EAT ANYTHING THAT YOU WISH...
NOTHING BAD, JUST TUBER MELANO-SPORUM.
TUBER MELANOSPORUM?
GLARE
AND WHO SAYS IT'S JUST FOR YOU?
SHUT UP, YOU!
BLUNT
TRUFFLES... RIGHT?
ONE OF THE TOP THREE DELICACIES IN THE WORLD
HEY, ARE YOU SURE ABOUT THIS?
RUMMMM...

HEY, PETER. WON'T YOU CRY FOR ME?
I'LL CERTAINLY CRY--- OUT OF JOY, WHEN YOU DIE.


BURBLE BURBLE BURBLE
IT CAME TO A BOIL
ACE, WHAT'S NEXT IN THE RECIPE?
COOKING.
WHEN WE HAVE SUBORDINATES WHO WOULD NOT DARE SHIRK!
BUT...
BUT WHY ARE YOU DOING SUCH MENIAL WORK ...?!
ACE BROUGHT SOME MUSHROOMS
ALICE?!
OH, NEXT WE TAKE THIS MAIN INGRED--
WHY ARE YOU, THE SOURCE OF MY BLISS, BESPOILING YOUR HANDS IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?!
PHUP
THAT YOU WOULD REALLY THINK WAS DELICIOUS, PETER.
I WANT TO MAKE A DISH...

I LOVE HOW HONEST YOU ARE.
HAHAHA
YOUR STUFF USUALLY IS, ACE
I WAS SURE IT WAS GOING TO BE GROSS.
YUP!
IT'S DELICIOUS!
OH, WOW!
GRAB
STOP IT!!
KYA
AND HOW CAN MY PEARL TAKE LESSONS FROM THIS CUR?!
I FOUND HIM SETTING UP CAMP WHEN I WAS WALKING HERE.
AND IN THE HALLWAY! IT'S CRAWLING WITH GERMS!!
ALICE, CAN YOU PLEASE SHUT HIM UP?
JEEZ... WELL, HERE GOES NOTHING.
HOW DARE YOU INFLICT YOUR ROTTEN CHARMS ON HER!

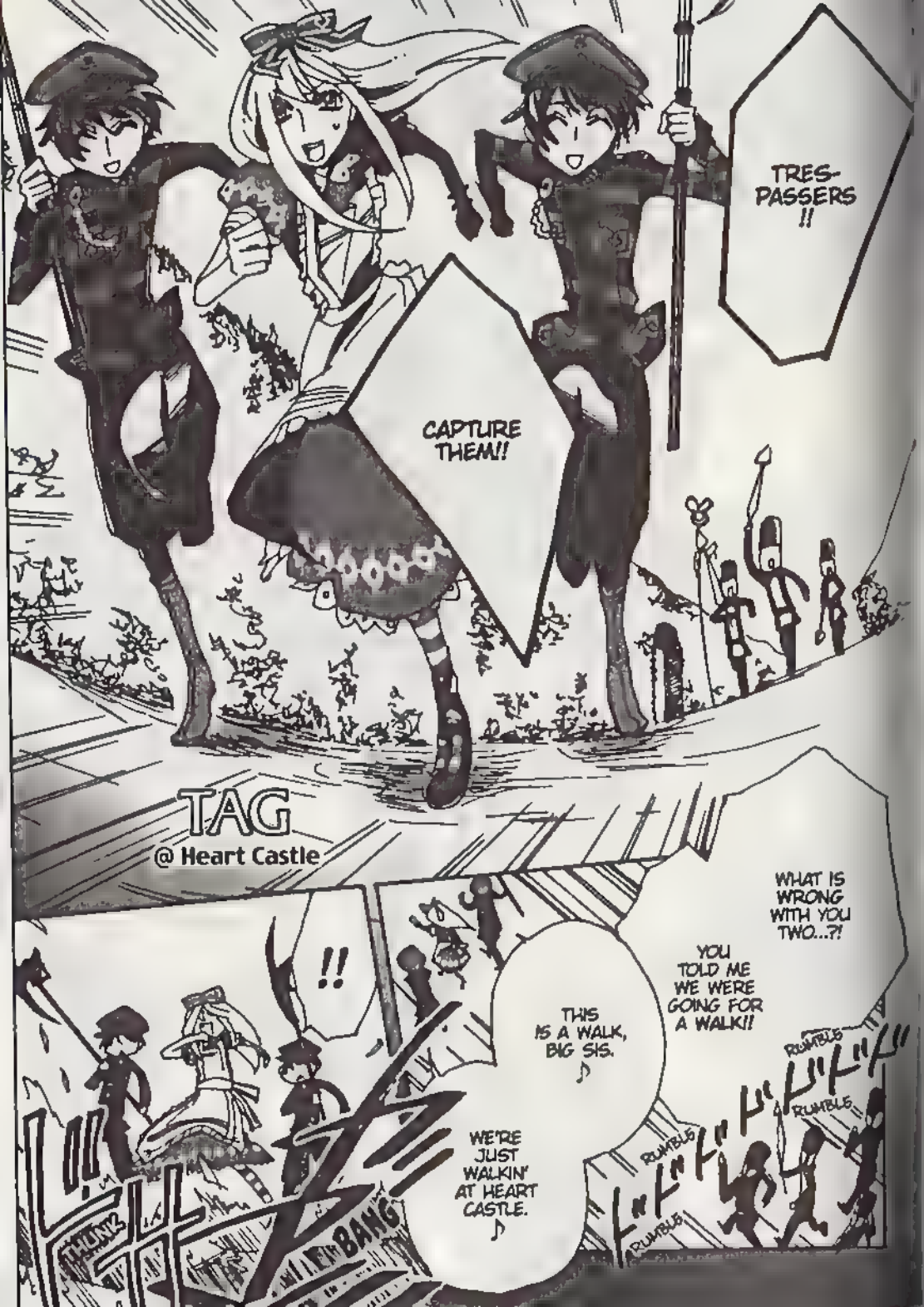

I GOT THESE SO WE COULD EAT IT AGAIN TOGETHER, BUT THEN HE GOT LEFT BEHIND IN THE MOVE. IT'S REALLY A SHAME!
Y-YEAH.
SIGH...
PLOP
WELL, IF EVEN JULIUS LIKES IT...
TRUFFLES AREN'T NORMALLY EATEN WHOLE LIKE THIS.
THEY'RE RARE AND SO EXPENSIVE.
TRUFFLES?
I CAN'T WAIT. I'VE HAD THIS DISH MANY TIMES BEFORE, AND EVEN JULIUS HAS GIVEN IT THE THUMBS-UP.
ALICE, HOLD ON.
YOU'RE AS CLEVER AS I THOUGHT.
MMM...
TONK

THE WHOLE POT
THANK GOODNESS! I MADE A LOT, SO HAVE AS MUCH AS YOU WANT!
TOMO
TURN
AND IT'S ALL MINE!
ALICE, OH, ALICE! THE FOOD IS DIVINE!
REALLY ?!
YES, SO MUCH BETTER THAN ALL RESTAURANTS COMBINED!
IGNORED
UH
I SEE... SO, YOU'RE RESISTANT, PETER?
HEY, THOSE WERE MY MUSHROOMS.
NO! YOU CAN'T HAVE ANY!
DON'T HOG IT ALL. I WANT TO TRY ALICE'S HOME COOKING.
BUT, ALICE, THIS MUSHROOM...
SMACK
OH, NOTHING. ♪
SAY, "AHH."
THAT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS!
STUFF
YOUR ENEMY ACT ISN'T FOOLING ANYONE.
SHEESH, YOU TWO.
RESISTANT? TO WHAT?
STUFF
SAY, "AH."
PETER.
Y-YES.
OHH—!
PETER'S TOO POLITE TO TALK WITH HIS MOUTH FULL.
HEE HEE
MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH
SEE?
WELL? DO YOU LIKE IT, PETER?
SO DIFFERENT FROM ME
JUST AS I THOUGHT, HIS MANNERS ARE PERFECT.
EVEN IF IT WERE POISONED.
GULP
THERE'S NO WAY ALICE'S FOOD WOULD TASTE BAD, RIGHT?

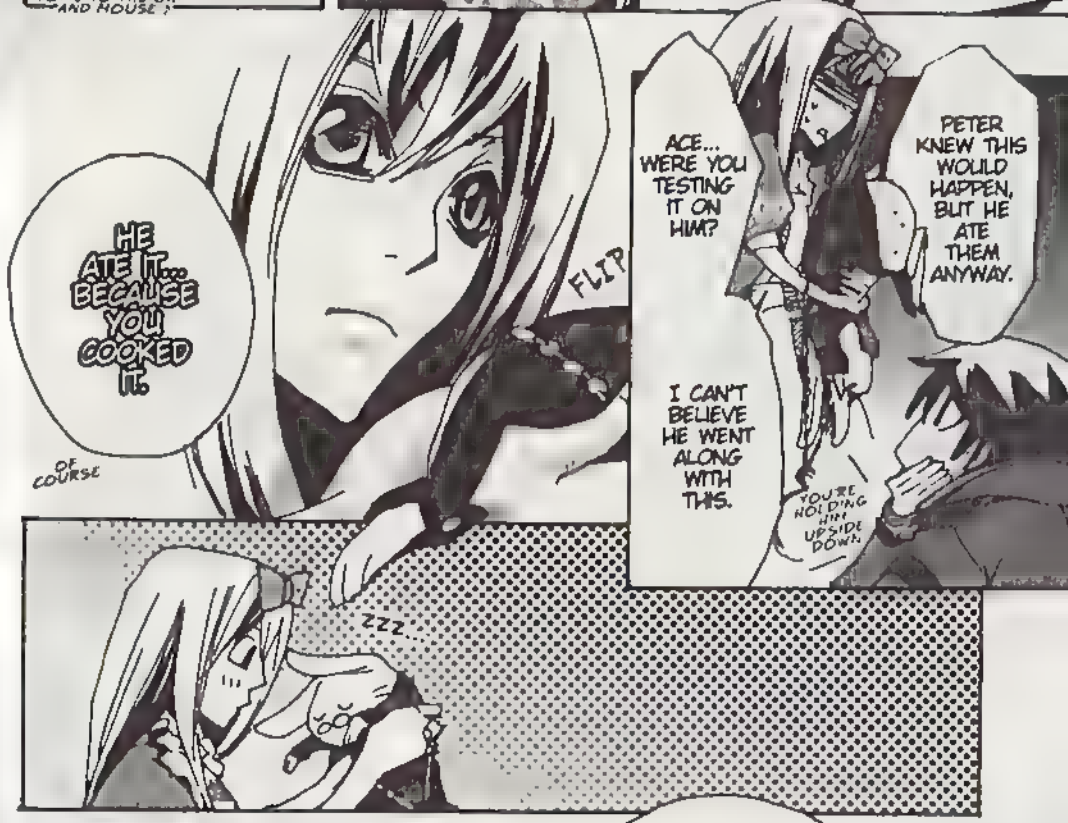
NON-SENSE.
AFFECT?
PETER?
UP WE GO
YOU MAY HAVE SOME RESISTANCE, BUT EATING THAT MUCH...
THAT'S GOT TO AFFECT EVEN SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
EMPTY
SLUMP
HEY... PETER, ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?!
UNBELIEVABLE
OOOH!
OOM
HOM
HOM
HOM
FWIP
MUNCH MUNCH
WH...?! YOUR WORDS MAKE ME SICK!! WHY WOULD I BE FRIENDS WITH THIS--
STUFF
HERE SAY "AHH."
PETER, YOU SHOULD HURRY UP AND FINISH.
YOU WANT HER TO THINK WE ENJOY HANGING OUT TOGETHER ?

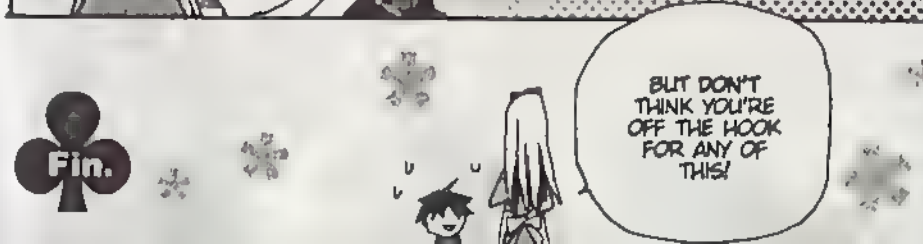
HEY, PETER.
EVEN IF HE'S IN THE MIDDLE OF WORK, OR A BATTLE...
OOPS
NORMALLY, THE SMALLEST WORD FROM ME SENDS HIM INTO A FRENZY.
PETER !!
HEY !
I'M TALK-ING TO YOU !!
RIP...
BANG
ALICE IS CALLING FOR YOU.
BANG
ANSWER WHEN I CALL YOU!!
WAAAAH!!
GRAB
CRUNCH
DIE.
FWIP
PETER? CAN YOU EVEN STAND?
HUH...?
HE IGNORED ME?!

WHOA...
I KNEW I COULDN'T HOLD BACK IF I LOOKED INTO YOUR EYES, SO I WAS AVOIDING THEM...
JEEZ...
I... CAN'T HOLD BACK ANY-MORE.
EVEN HIS EYEBROWS ARE PURE WHITE. THOSE EYES. THAT FACE. THAT EXPRESSION...!
NO! NOT LIKE THIS!!
THIS IS ALL BECAUSE OF THE TRUFFLES.
ALL OF IT...
P... PLEASE DON'T TOUCH ME!
TWUP
HE WON'T EVEN LOOK AT ME...
I... IT'S NOT YOU.
RIGHT NOW... I'M...
...SOMEONE LIKE ME SHOULD JUST DIE!
GRAB
WAAAH!!
HMM... HOW DO I PUT IT?
RIGHT NOW, PETER ISN'T A RABBIT BUT A WOLF.
SO TO SPEAK
HEY, WHAT'S GOING ON?! ACE!!
WHY'S PETER ACTING EVEN WEIRDER THAN USUAL?!
DROOP...
オオカミ!?
WOLF!
STROKE
CHUCKLE
ALICE...
I WONDER HOW IT WORKS... ON RABBITS?
THE EFFECT ON PEOPLE HASN'T BEEN PROVEN.
TRUFFLES ARE SAID TO CONTAIN AN APHRO-DISIAC.
I THOUGHT SOMEONE AS KNOWL-EDGEABLE AS YOU WOULD KNOW THAT ALICE


TRES-PASSERS !!
CAPTURE THEM!!
TAG
@ Heart Castle
!!
THIS IS A WALK, BIG SIS. ♪
YOU TOLD ME WE WERE GOING FOR A WALK!!
WHAT IS WRONG WITH YOU TWO...?!
WE'RE JUST WALKIN' AT HEART CASTLE. ♪
RUMBLE
BANG

ONLOOKER.
OOOH...
SO EATING TRUFFLES CAUSES A CHANGE INTO ANIMAL FORM.
I'VE GOT TO GIVE SOME TO THE CAT AND MOUSE!
WH-WHAT ?
BWUH!
POP!


HE ATE IT... BECAUSE YOU COOKED IT.
OF COURSE
FLIP
ACE... WERE YOU TESTING IT ON HIM?
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE WENT ALONG WITH THIS.
PETER KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN, BUT HE ATE THEM ANYWAY.
YOU'RE HOLDING HIM UPSIDE DOWN.
ZZZ

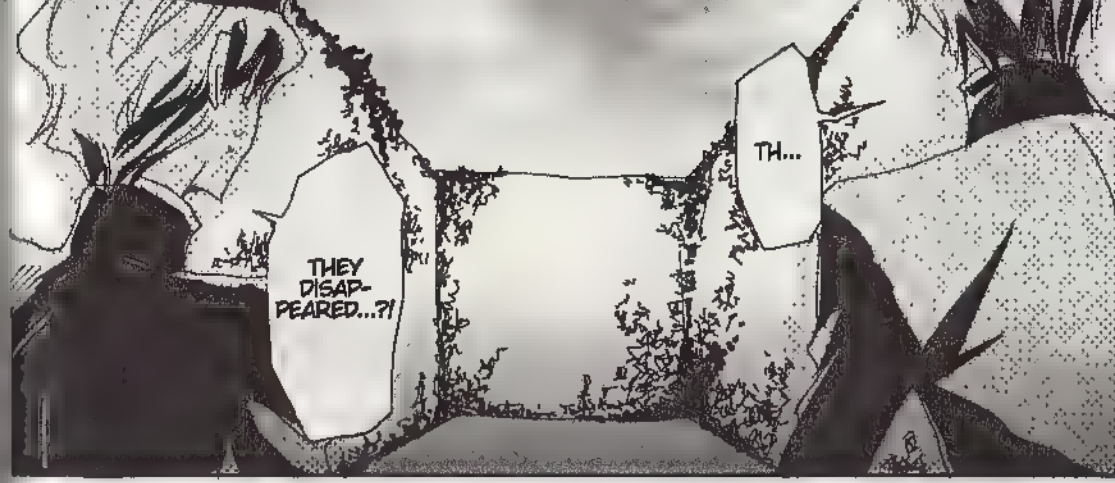

Fin.
BUT DON'T THINK YOU'RE OFF THE HOOK FOR ANY OF THIS!

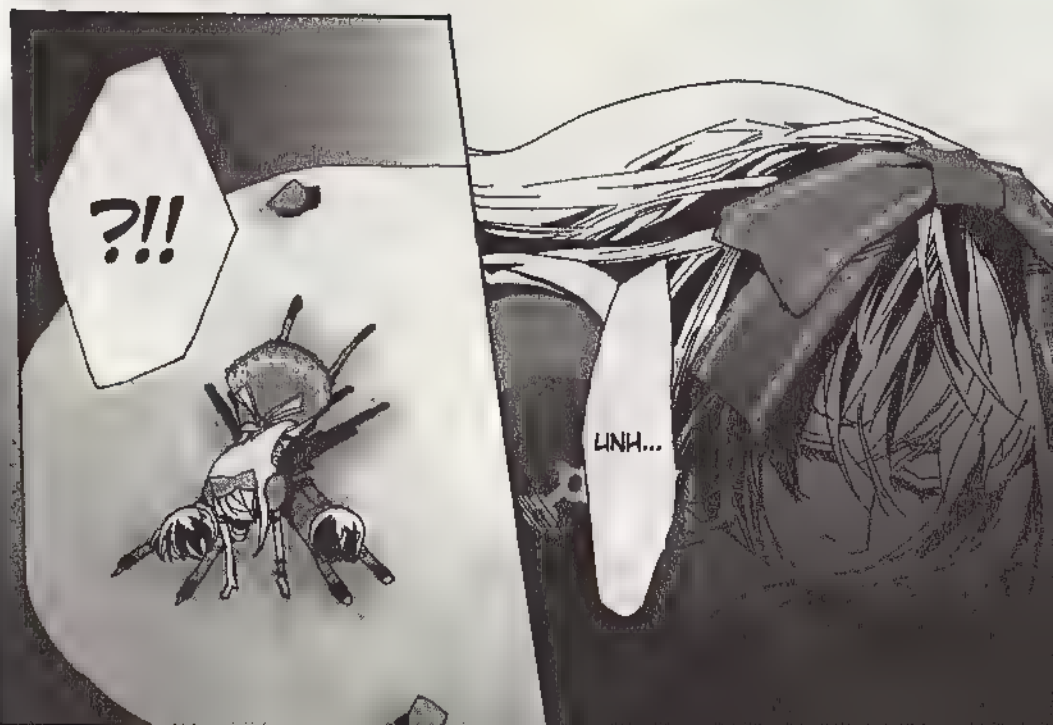
CLING
CLING
BIG SIS IS OURS.
KEEP YER PAWS TO YOURSELF
BIG SIS IS GOING ON A WALK WITH US. SO THERE, YA DUMB BUNNY.
GYAAAAH!!!
DON'T TOUCH MY ALICE!!
SINCE WHEN AM I YOURS?!
ALICE! I'LL SAVE YOU, NEVER FEAR!!
YOU, SOLDIERS!! HURRY AND BRING THOSE TRESPASSERS HERE!
AND DON'T LAY A FINGER ON MY PRECIOUS DEAR!
CMON, I DARE YA!
B...BUT THOSE ARE THE BLOODY TWINS...
THOSE DIRTY HANDS!!

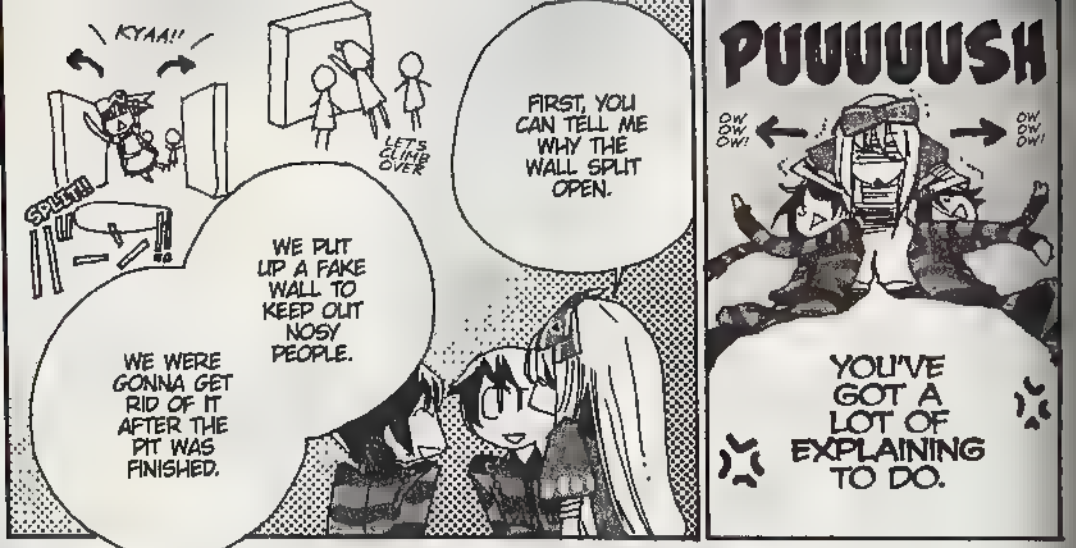
CRUNCH
I WILL NOT ALLOW TRESPASSING.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE.
DA-DAM
THE ENEMY
HOWEVER... IF YOU LEAVE ALICE WITH ME, I'LL LET YOU OFF JUST THIS ONCE.
SNAP
NO WAY!!
DUMMY.
DUMMY

WE'LL ALWAYS BE TOGETHER, BIG SIS!!
THAT MAKES NO SENSE!
WE'RE NOT SCARED, 'CAUSE YOU'RE WITH US!
DEE. DUM. ENOUGH OF THIS GAME—IT'S DANGEROUS!
RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE RUMBLE
YES, AND...?
NOT MY PROBLEM
WAIT! BIG SIS...!
LET'S CLIMB OVER THE WALL.
OH, THAT. SEE, WE...
DASH!
A... A DEAD END?!
!!
SCREECH
?!
THEY RAN THIS WAY!
GATHER
GATHER
THEY'VE RUN AWAY.
I THINK WE LOST OUR WINDOW
LITTLE DOTS
WELL, RUN AFTER THEM!!
WOW HE DOESN'T RUN--!
P-P-P-PRIME MINISTER! PLEASE WAIT!!
DON'T BE SO USELESS; STOP MAKING EXCUSES!!
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
BANG
SHINK

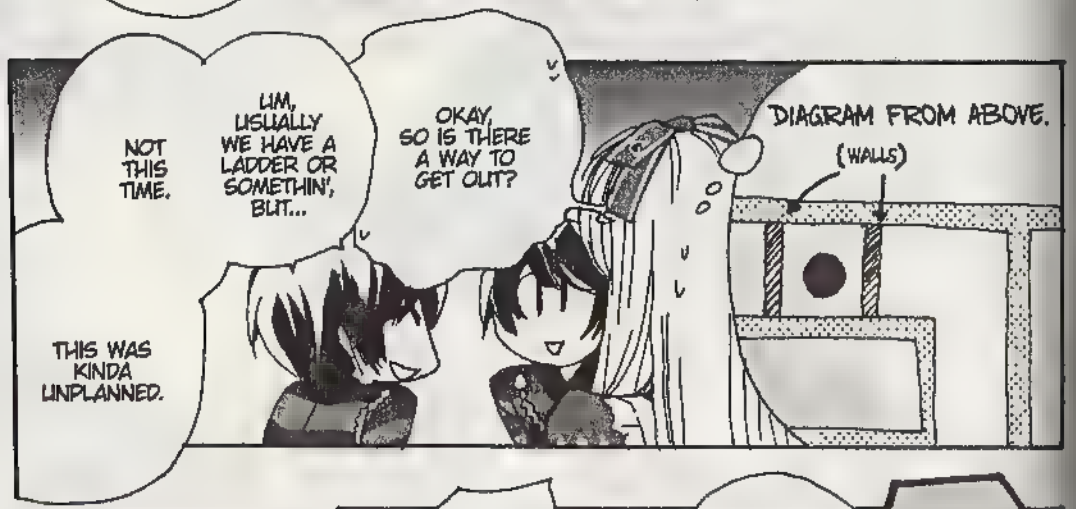
DRAG
DRAG
WHY AM I ON TOP OF YOU--?
B... BOTH OF YOU...!
DEE... DUM?!
NO WAY!
WAKE UP.
HEY.
DEE!! DUM!!
I FELL IN BEFORE THEY DID.
I SAID, HEY!!
I'M THE ONE WHO SHOULD HAVE CUSHIONED THEIR FALL...

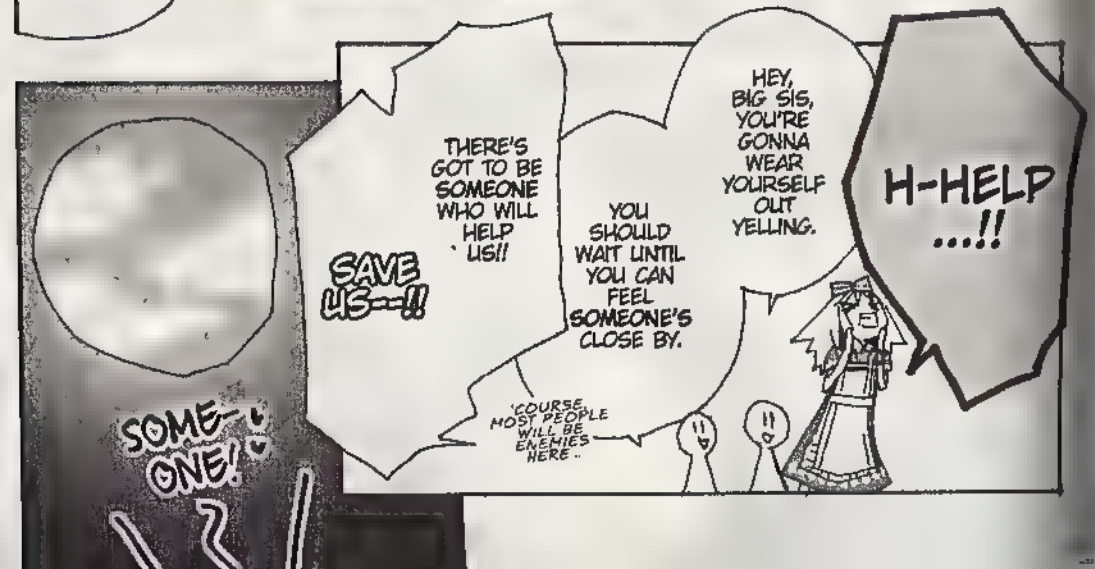

THEY DISAP-PEARED...?!
TH...

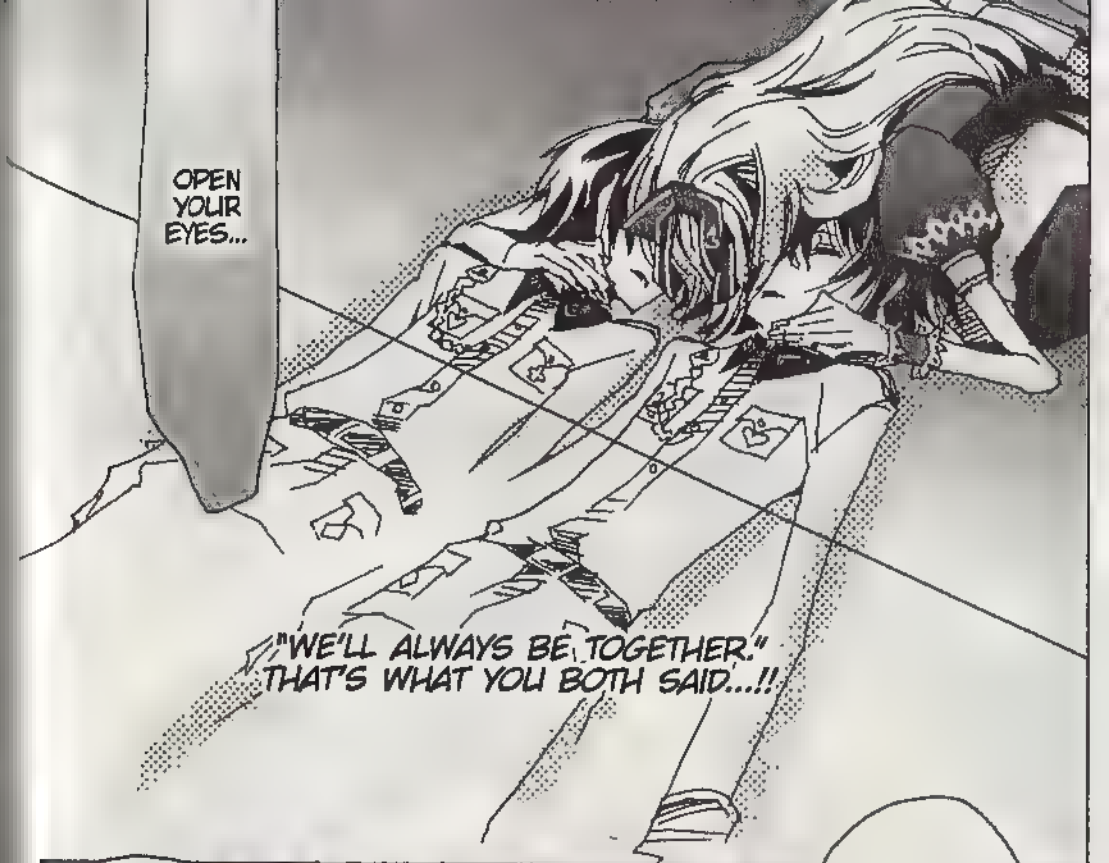

?!!
UNH...

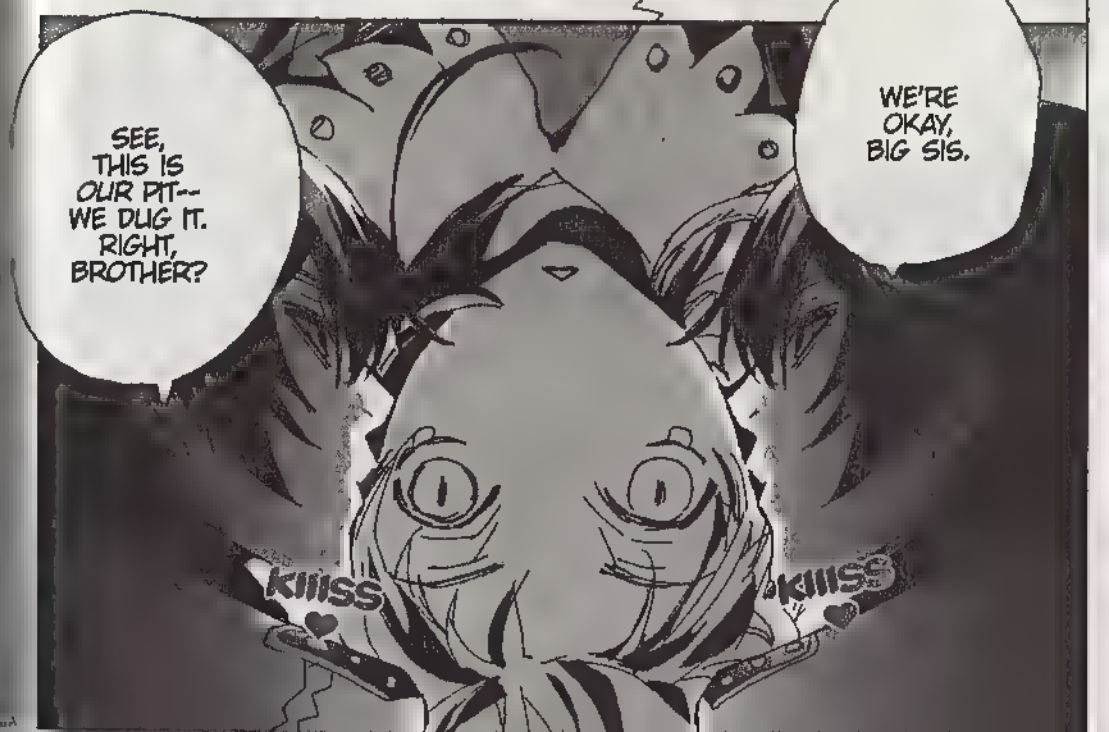

KYAA!!
SPLEETH
LET'S CLIMB OVER
WE WERE GONNA GET RID OF IT AFTER THE PIT WAS FINISHED.
WE PUT UP A FAKE WALL TO KEEP OUT NOSY PEOPLE.
FIRST, YOU CAN TELL ME WHY THE WALL SPLIT OPEN.

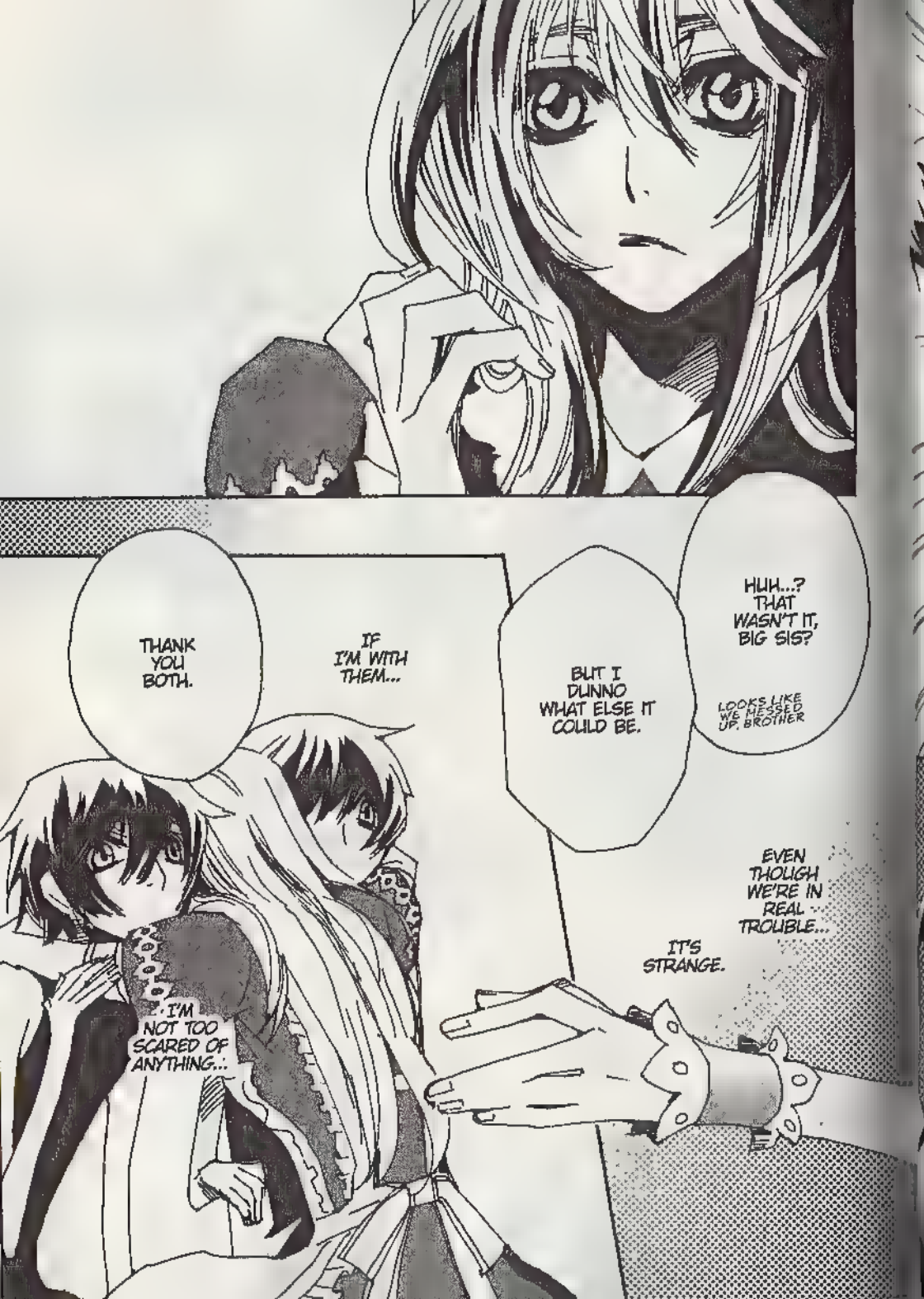
PUUUUUSH
OW, OW, OW!
OW, OW, OW!
YOU'VE GOT A LOT OF EXPLAINING TO DO.


NOT THIS TIME.
UM, USUALLY WE HAVE A LADDER OR SOMETHIN', BUT...
OKAY, SO IS THERE A WAY TO GET OUT?
DIAGRAM FROM ABOVE.
(WALLS)
THIS WAS KINDA UNPLANNED.


SOME-ONE!
SAVE US--!!
THERE'S GOT TO BE SOMEONE WHO WILL HELP US!!
'COURSE MOST PEOPLE WILL BE ENEMIES HERE..
YOU SHOULD WAIT UNTIL YOU CAN FEEL SOMEONE'S CLOSE BY.
HEY, BIG SIS, YOU'RE GONNA WEAR YOURSELF OUT YELLING.
H-HELP ...!!

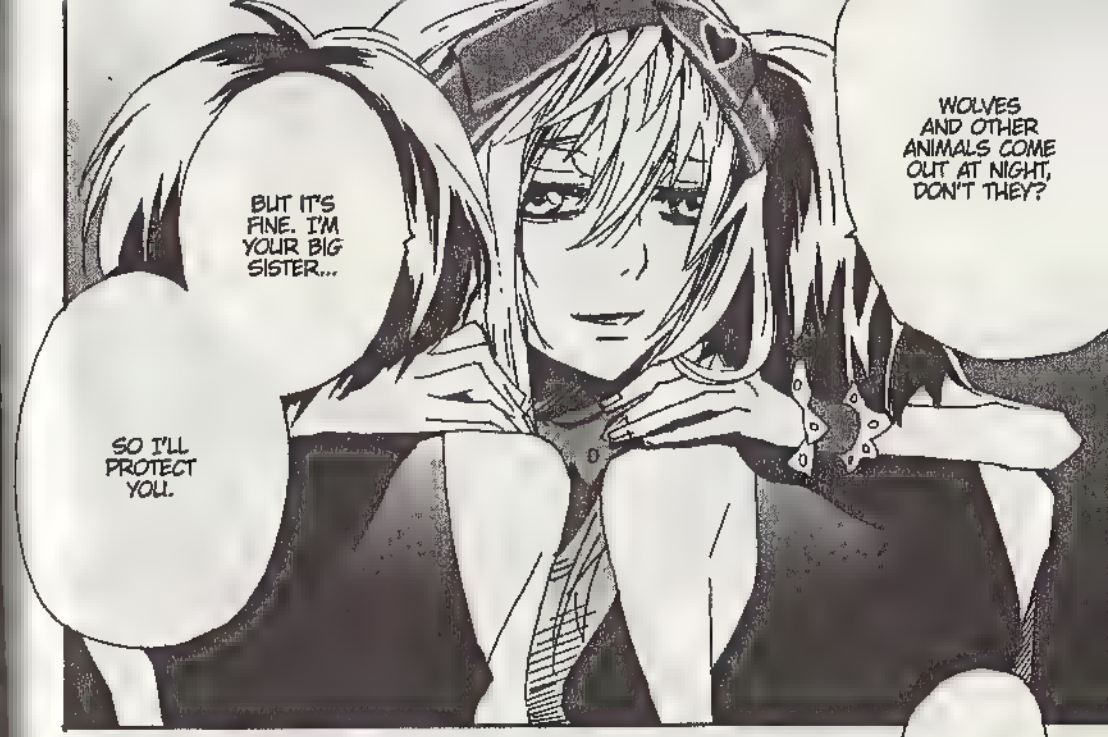

OPEN YOUR EYES...
"WE'LL ALWAYS BE TOGETHER." THAT'S WHAT YOU BOTH SAID...!!


SEE, THIS IS OUR PIT-- WE DUG IT. RIGHT, BROTHER?
WE'RE OKAY, BIG SIS.
KIISS
KIISS

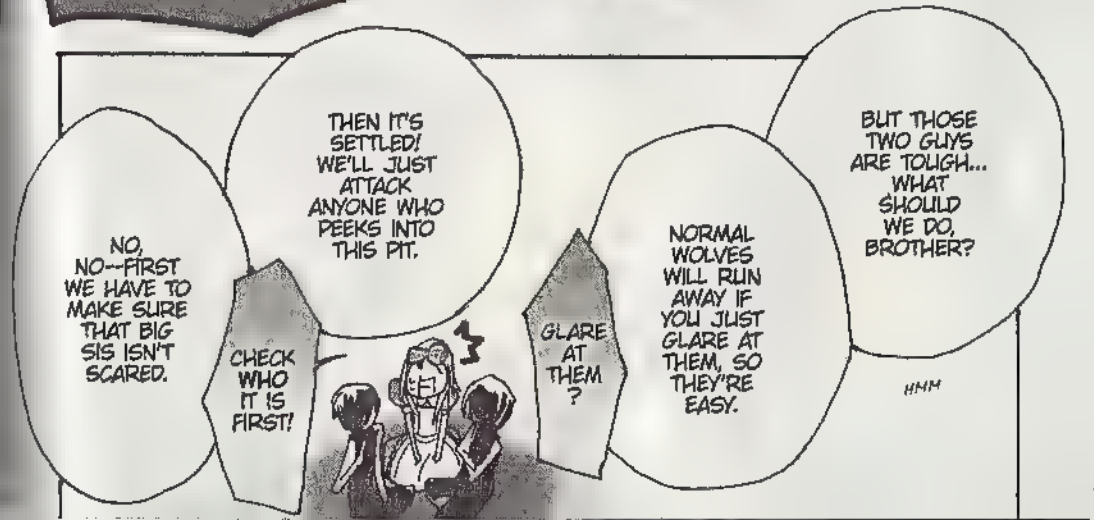

THANK YOU BOTH.
IF I'M WITH THEM...
I'M NOT TOO SCARED OF ANYTHING...
BUT I DUNNO WHAT ELSE IT COULD BE.
HUH...? THAT WASN'T IT, BIG SIS?
LOOKS LIKE WE MESSED UP, BROTHER
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE IN REAL TROUBLE...
IT'S STRANGE.

?!!
STRIP
WELL, THAT'S ...
WHY?
I...I WANT TO GET OUT BEFORE IT RANDOMLY TURNS TO NIGHT...
HUFF
COULD IT BE?
YUP, GOTTA BE.
WELL, WE NEED WATER AND THE BATHROOM, AND ANYTHING COULD COME OUT AT NIGHT.
HEY, WHAT'S SHE MEAN, BROTHER?
HEY, I THINK SHE MEANS
LAY.
YOU CAN SLEEP HERE.
HERE, BIG SIS.
WH-WH-WH-WHAT ARE YOU TWO DOING?!
GYAAAH--!!
THIS WAY YOUR CLOTHES WON'T GET DIRTY!
SMILE

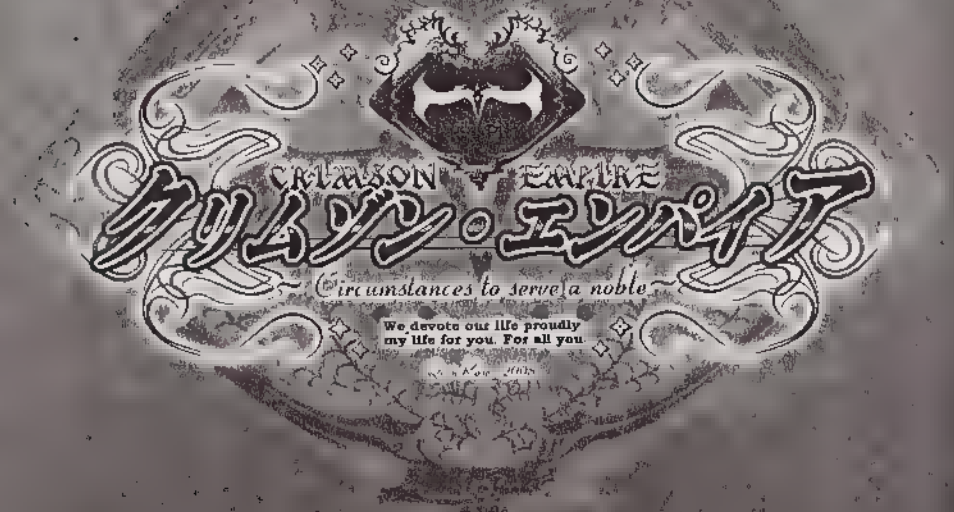
SLIP
YEAH, YEAH.
OKAY, THEN! LET'S DISTRACT HER.
WE JUST GOTTA KEEP BIG SIS FROM THINKIN' OF SCARY STUFF!!
HELLO?
SO...
BIG SIS.
JUST THINK ABOUT US.


WOLVES AND OTHER ANIMALS COME OUT AT NIGHT, DON'T THEY?
BUT IT'S FINE. I'M YOUR BIG SISTER...
SO I'LL PROTECT YOU.

DON'T WORRY!! WE'LL PROTECT YOU, BIG SIS!!
I DIDN'T SAY MON-STER.
AND IS THE MONSTER THAT KNIGHT?
HUH?
HEY, BIG SIS... IS THE WOLF THAT WHITE RABBIT?


NO, NO--FIRST WE HAVE TO MAKE SURE THAT BIG SIS ISN'T SCARED.
CHECK WHO IT IS FIRST!
THEN IT'S SETTLED! WE'LL JUST ATTACK ANYONE WHO PEEKS INTO THIS PIT.
GLARE AT THEM?
NORMAL WOLVES WILL RUN AWAY IF YOU JUST GLARE AT THEM, SO THEY'RE EASY.
BUT THOSE TWO GUYS ARE TOUGH... WHAT SHOULD WE DO, BROTHER?
HMM

IGNORE
スルー
DON'T WORRY ABOUT THAT.
N...NO!! THIS IS ABSOLUTELY NOT THE TIME OR PLACE!!
"N"?
OF COURSE I'M GOING TO WORRY!
SHOO!
I KNOW! SHE WOULDN'T BE COMFY, BROTHER.
BIG SIS'D PROBABLY GET HURT
I'LL JUST KEEP FALLING.
BECAUSE IF THIS KEEPS UP...'
HMM... WHAT DO YOU THINK'S THE PROBLEM, BROTHER?
FLOAT
THAT'S NOT THE ISSUE...
SO, A BED WOULD FIX EVERYTHING, RIGHT, BIG SIS?
HUH ?
GRAB
FOCUS ON US.
WHY ARE THESE BOYS...
BIG SIS.
UH... UMM...
HOW DID I GET MYSELF INTO THIS?
SUDDENLY SO GROWN UP--?!
N...o!

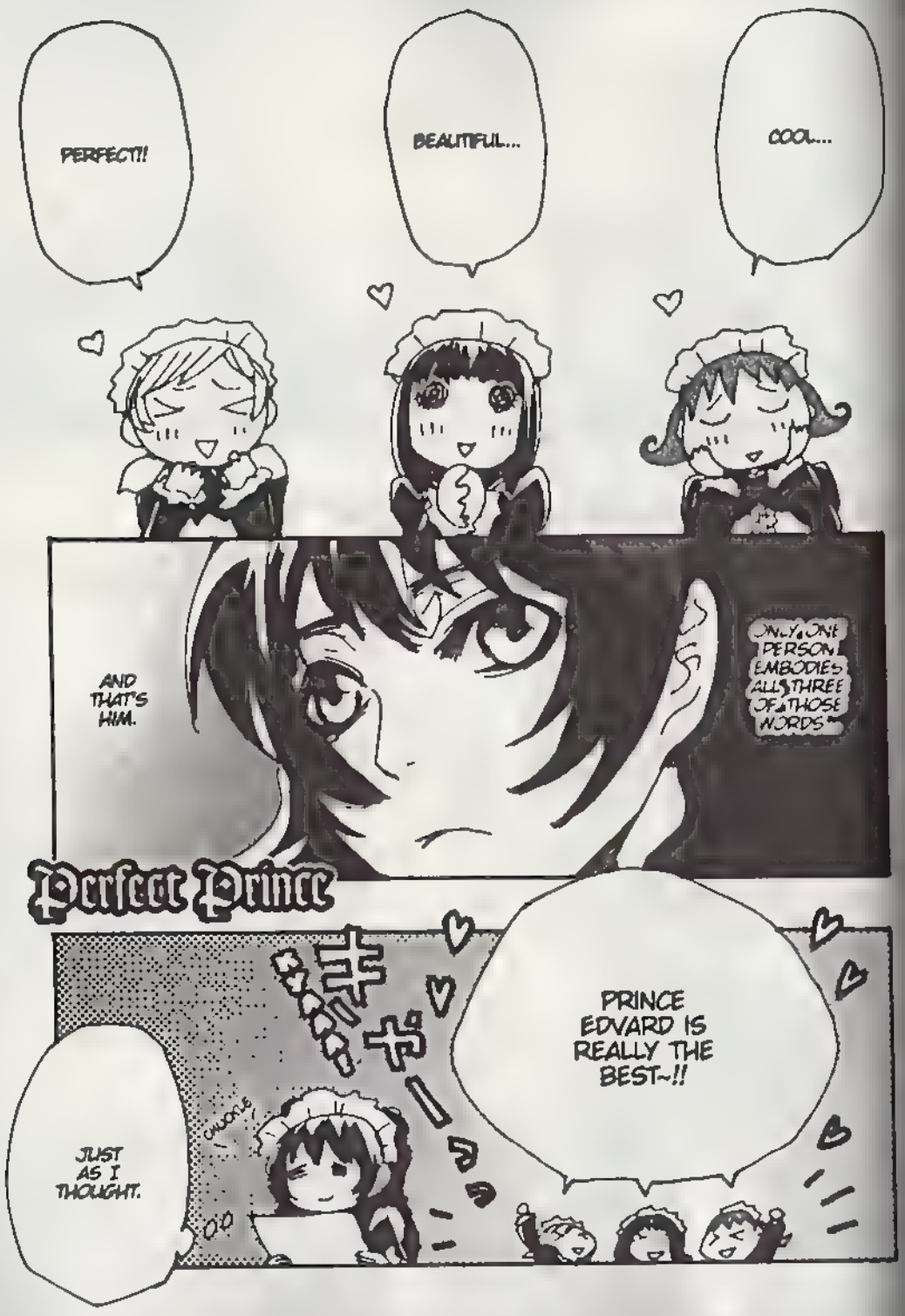


STORY

The setting is a country of aristocrats: a tributary nation for Luxonne. *Crimson Empire* is a love adventure game about a maid, Sheila, who works in the luxurious royal castle. But behind the lavish façade, the castle is home to a savage—and bloody—political war.

Strong and skilled, Sheila uses her position as a maid to hide her true profession: bodyguard to Prince Edvard. Sheila carries a dark past of enslavement and murder. Now she survives day to day, with only a small wish in her heart.

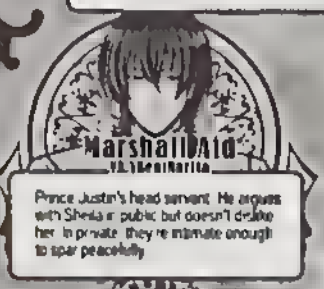
While navigating the power struggle between Prince Edvard and his brother, the deceptive Prince Justin, Sheila must understand and use the dangerous people who surround her. But although a brilliant fighter and tactician, Sheila is unskilled when it comes to love and friendships. Such a gap between her power and her heart could lead to a dire ending indeed!



Crimson Empire Character Information

Sheila Rozen

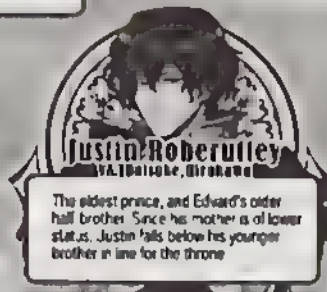
The intensely loyal head maid to Prince Edvard and his secret bodyguard. She's a skilled leader and shrewdly political, in addition to being fierce in combat. She doesn't hide her roots as a slave.



Marshall Aid

VA: Ikeda Narita

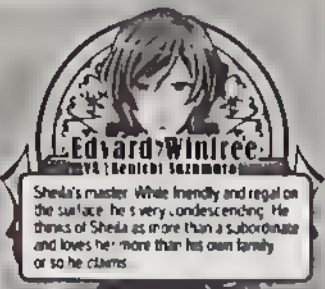
Prince Justin's head servant. He argues with Sheila in public but doesn't dislike her. In private, they're intimate enough to spar peacefully.



Justin Roberutley

VA: Daisuke Hirakawa

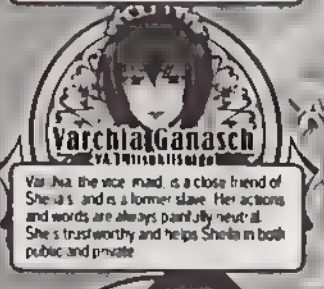
The eldest prince, and Edvard's older half brother. Since his mother is of lower status, Justin falls below his younger brother in line for the throne.



Edvard Winlree

VA: Kenichi Suzumura

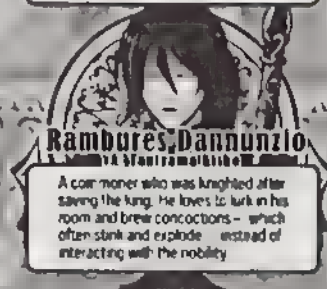
Sheila's master. While friendly and regal on the surface, he's very condescending. He thinks of Sheila as more than a subordinate and loves her more than his own family, or so he claims.



Varchia Ganasch

VA: Miyuki Sawashiro

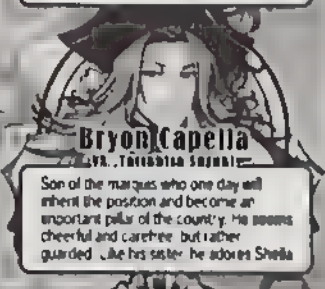
Varchia, the vice maid, is a close friend of Sheila's and is a former slave. Her actions and words are always painfully neutral. She's trustworthy and helps Sheila in both public and private.



Rambures Dannunzio

VA: Shouta Aoi

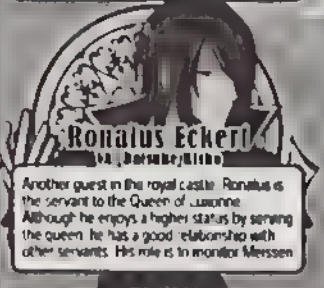
A commoner who was knighted after saving the king. He loves to lurk in his room and brew concoctions – which often stink and explode – instead of interacting with the nobility.



Bryon Capella

VA: Tomokazu Sugita

Son of the marquis who one day will inherit the position and become an important pillar of the country. He seems cheerful and carefree, but rather guarded. Like his sister, he adores Sheila.



Ronatus Eckert

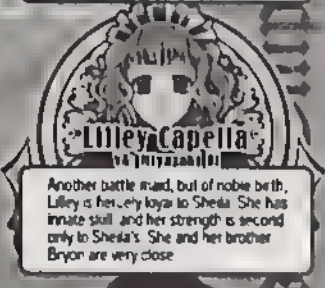
VA: Daisuke Kishio

Another guest in the royal castle. Ronatus is the servant to the Queen of Lusonne. Although he enjoys a higher status by serving the queen, he has a good relationship with other servants. His role is to monitor Meissen.

Hauranne Balzola

VA: Daisuke Namikawa

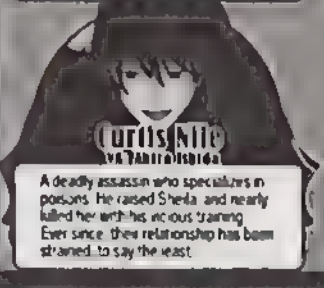
A wizard staying in the royal castle who is treated as a guest, but he's been in the castle longer than anyone. He's lived a long life, and his real age doesn't match his looks.



Lilley Capella

VA: Miyuki Dei

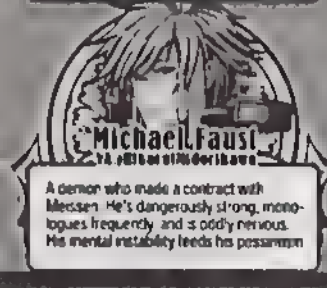
Another battle maid, but of noble birth, Lilley is fiercely loyal to Sheila. She has innate skill, and her strength is second only to Sheila's. She and her brother Bryon are very close.



Curtis Nile

VA: Takahiro Ishida

A deadly assassin who specializes in poisons. He raised Sheila and nearly killed her with his vicious training. Ever since, their relationship has been strained, to say the least.



Michael Faust

VA: Hikaru Midorikawa

A demon who made a contract with Meissen. He's dangerously strong, monologues frequently, and is oddly nervous. His mental instability feeds his pessimism.

Meissen Hildegarde

VA: Hiroshi Shimozoe

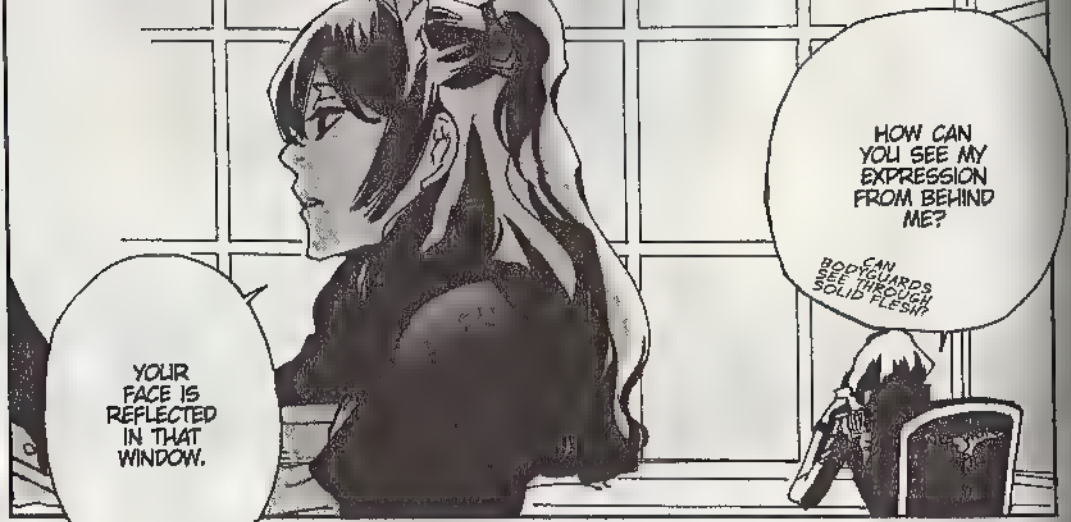
Meissen has a tendency to wander, and he's traveled all over the world. His lady-killer persona hides a powerful wizard. He's searching for the truth and is trying to become a sage, supposedly.

SUPER-GRUMPY
ぶすくれ
BUT THAT FACE OF— HIS IS...
IT'S TRUE THAT I'M USED TO SEEING IT...
PRINCE EDVARD'S SMILE...

SORRY, IT'S JUST THAT SOME OTHER GIRLS WHO WERE ON BREAK SAID THE SAME THING.
I COULDN'T HELP IT
TONK
OH. DID YOU ACTUALLY HEAR ME?
YES, WE DID~!
AH--! DON'T LAUGH, HEAD MAID.

WHAT?
AH, YES... OF COURSE.
EVEN YOU, RIGHT, HEAD MAID?!
WHY, EVERYONE'S THINKING IT!!

I'M JEALOUS~! I WANT TO SPEND SO MUCH TIME WITH HIM THAT I DON'T NOTICE HIS SMILE, TOO!
HEAD MAID IS ALWAYS BESIDE PRINCE EDVARD, SO THE NOVELTY MUST BE GONE.
COME NOW, SUCH A FEEBLE RESPONSE...
HA HA...
KYAA! KYAA!


YOUR FACE IS REFLECTED IN THAT WINDOW.
HOW CAN YOU SEE MY EXPRESSION FROM BEHIND ME?
CAN BODYGUARDS SEE THROUGH SOLID FLESH?

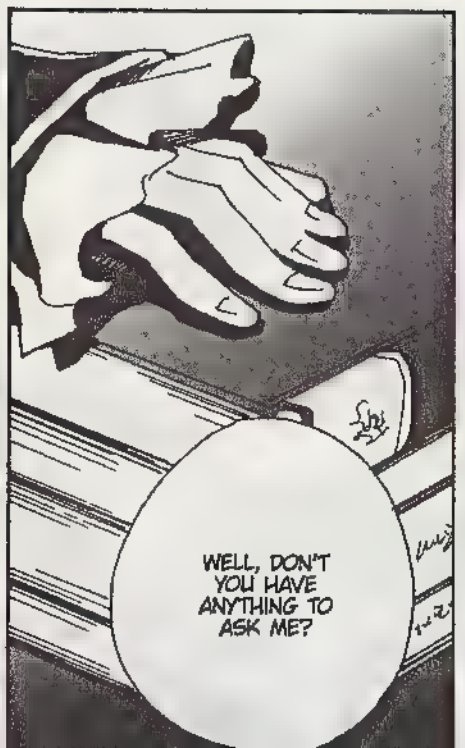
THUNK.

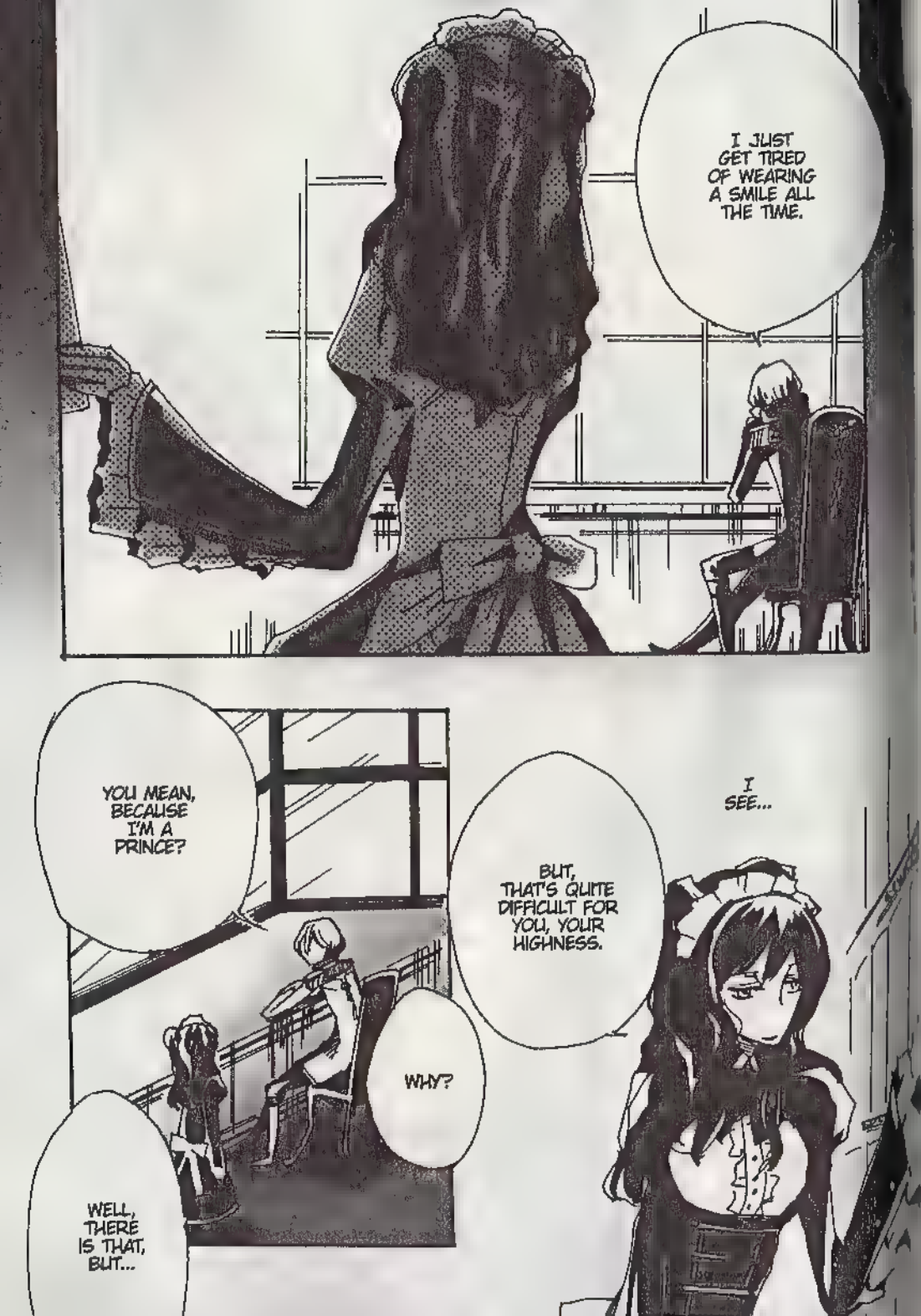
RUSTLE
RUSTLE

.....

HMPH... WHY DON'T YOU ASK, EVEN THOUGH MY EXPRESSION BETRAYS ME?
.....!!

YOUR EXPRESSION SAYS IT ALL, YOUR HIGHNESS.


WELL, DON'T YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO ASK ME?


I JUST GET TIRED OF WEARING A SMILE ALL THE TIME.
WHEN YOU ARE TRULY IN A BAD MOOD YOUR EXPRESSION IS ENTIRELY DIFFERENT.
BECAUSE IT'S FAR TOO OBVIOUS TO BE SERIOUS.
SILENTLY WORKING
.....
AH HA HA HA
GRIN
THAT'S WHY I LOVE YOU.
HEH HEH.
I SEE...
BUT, THAT'S QUITE DIFFICULT FOR YOU, YOUR HIGHNESS.
YOU MEAN, BECAUSE I'M A PRINCE?
WHY?
WELL, THERE IS THAT, BUT...

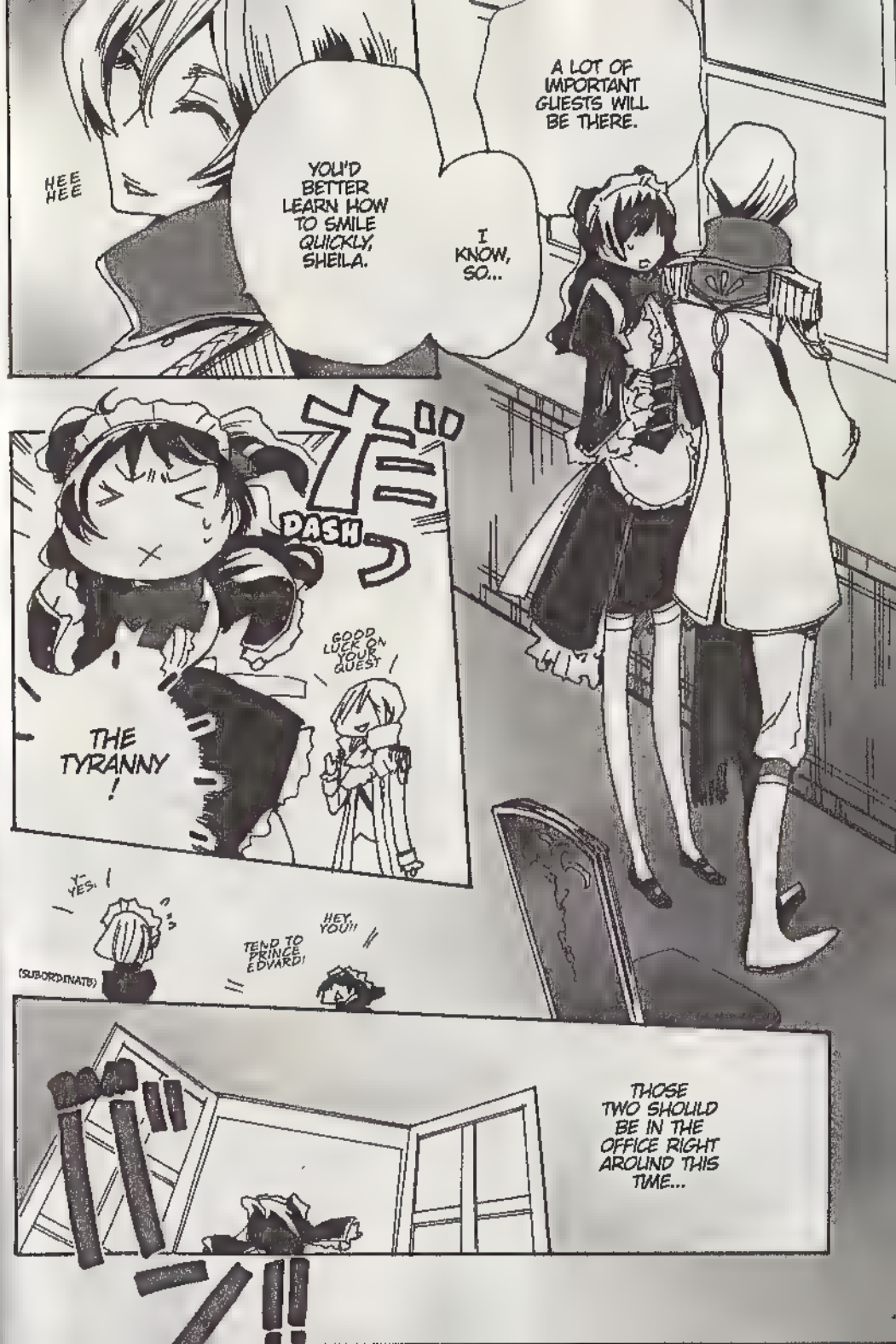
DOES MY SMILE SAVE YOU?
MY PRINCE?
HMM... AND YOU?
ISN'T THAT CHARMING.
IT JUST SHOWS HOW IMPORTANT YOU ARE.
KYAA!!
EVERYONE IS UPLIFTED BY YOUR SMILE.
NOT ONLY THE COMMONERS, BUT THE ARISTOCRATS AND THE CASTLE SERVANTS...
THERE'S NO REAL CONNECTION BETWEEN THOSE TWO THOUGHTS.
I MEAN, YOUR FACE NATURALLY LOOKS LIKE IT IS SMILING.
WOMANLY FACE...
OOPS, I CAN'T BELIEVE I SAID THAT
STROKE
IT'S REALLY BECAUSE YOU HAVE A...
IT'S GOOD THAT YOUR FACE ALWAYS LOOKS LIKE IT IS SMILING.
DON'T YOU AGREE, YOUR HIGHNESS?
THAT'S RIGHT.
AND MANY PEOPLE FEEL SAVED BY YOUR SMILE.
WELL, I SUPPOSE IT'S NEVER DONE ME ANY HARM...

SMILE.
YES...??
IS "YES" ALL THAT YOU CAN SAY?
I SEE.
THEN, SAVE ME IN RETURN.
YES.
HAA
I APOLO-GIZE.
YES ???
LIKE I SAID...
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YES.
WHAT I MEAN IS...
SAVE HIM... HOW?!
I ALREADY PROTECT YOU FROM YOUR ENEMIES, AS YOUR BODY-GUARD.
AND I WILL BE ACCOMPANYING YOU AT THIS EVENING'S BALL.
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEANT.

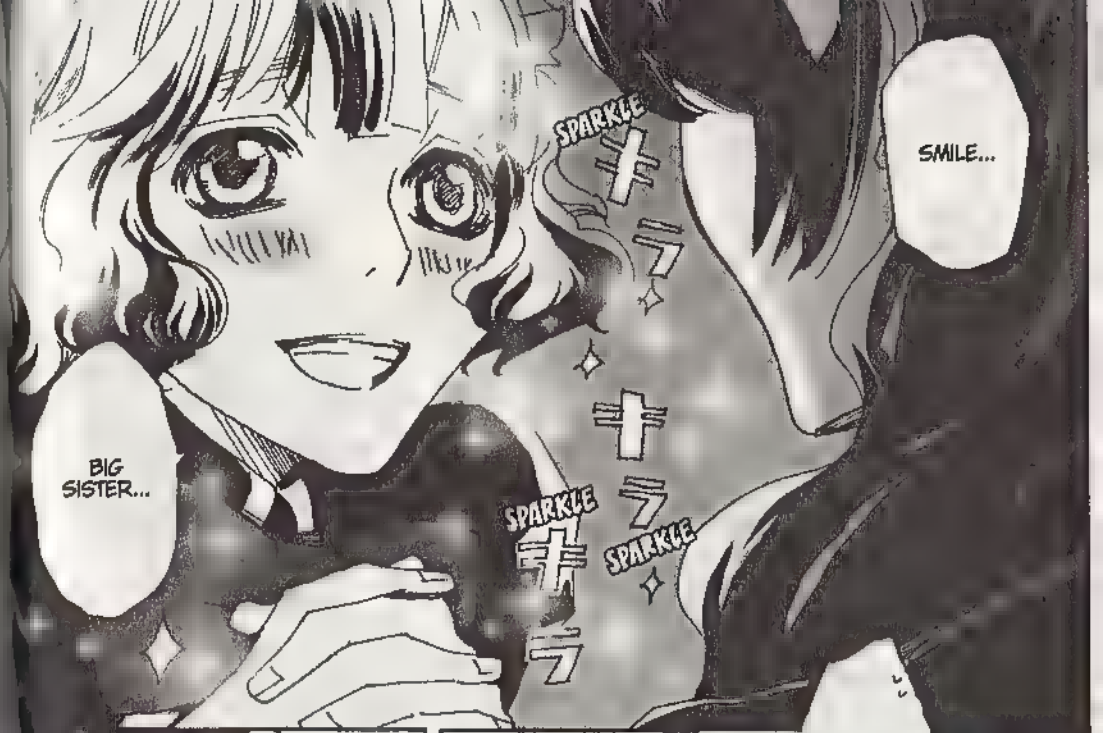
T-TWITCH
Y...YOU ARE A MASTER IN THIS FIELD, BUT...
YOU CAN DO IT. LIKE THIS.
THIS... IS TOO SUDDEN.
CLATTER
GOOD EXAMPLE.
↑ BAD EXAMPLE
TURN
HMM, VERY WELL.
I DON'T WANT A FAKE SMILE, ANYWAY.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
DO YOU WANT ME TO SMILE OR NOT?
MY FACE MUSCLES JUST DON'T WORK THAT WAY.
I'M AN AMATEUR !!
HAH...?
I'M NOT GOING TO THE BALL TONIGHT.
SO, UNTIL YOU GIVE ME A REAL SMILE, AND A CUTE ONE...

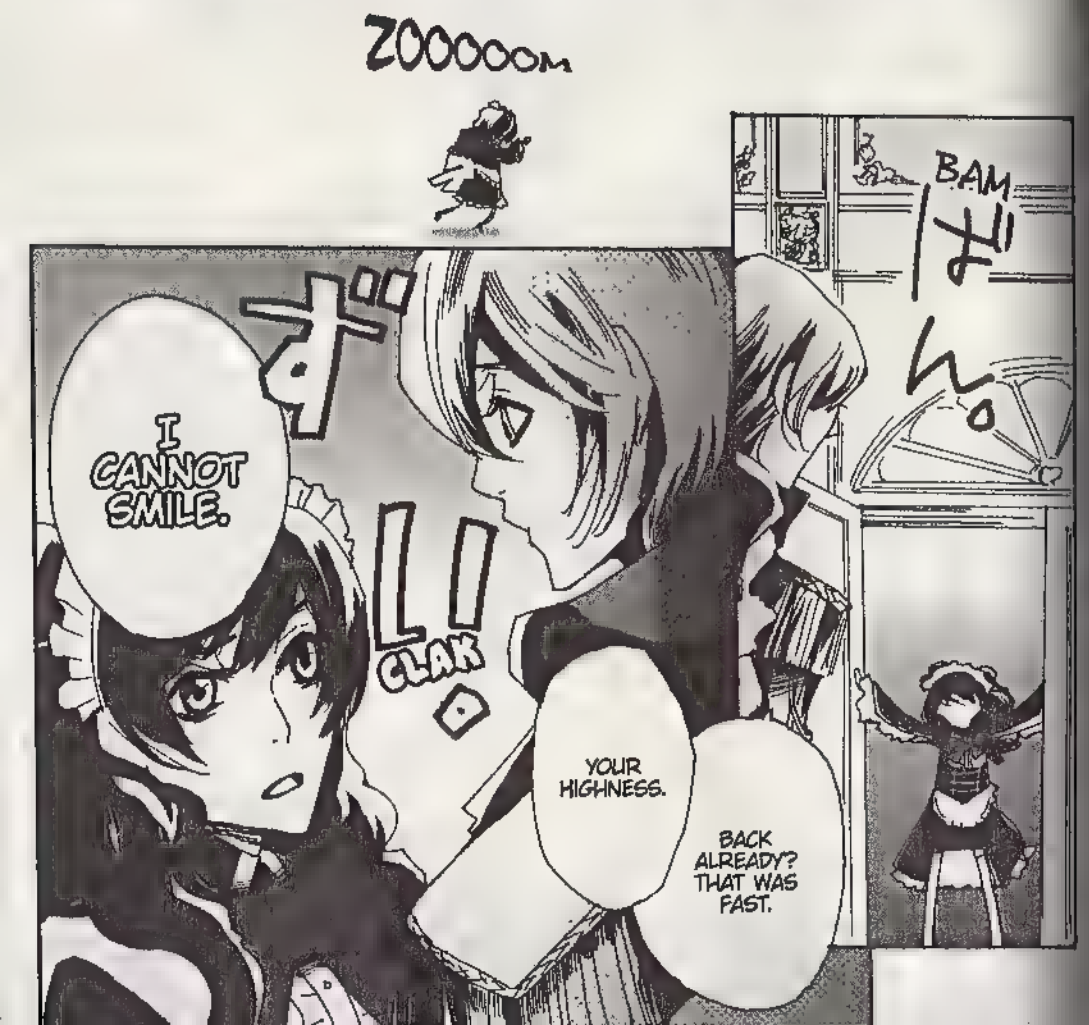
I DON'T BELIEVE THAT I CAN SAVE SOMEONE JUST BY SMILING.
SORRY, YOUR HIGHNESS. YOUR WORDS CONFUSED ME.
I TOLD YOU TO SMILE, SO DON'T GIVE ME THAT INSIPID EXPRESSION.
NOT AGAIN.
YES...?
OH, YOU WILL.
YOU'LL SAVE ME.
.....

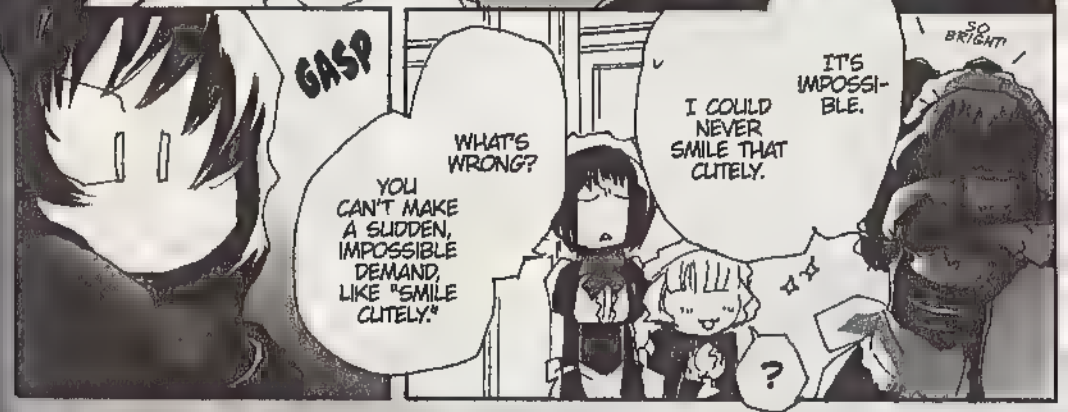
V... VARCHIA !!
WH... WHAT IS IT?
BIG SISTER !!
I THOUGHT YOU WERE SUPPOSED TO ACCOMPANY PRINCE EDVARD ALL DAY TODAY. WHAT HAPPENED?
SQUEEZE
SMILE.
HUH...?
AND DO IT CUTELY.
LILLEY.
YOU CAN'T HIT BIG SISTER LIKE THAT--!!
FUME--!
THONK
JUST AS I THOUGHT!
DON'T ASK THE IMPOSSIBLE.

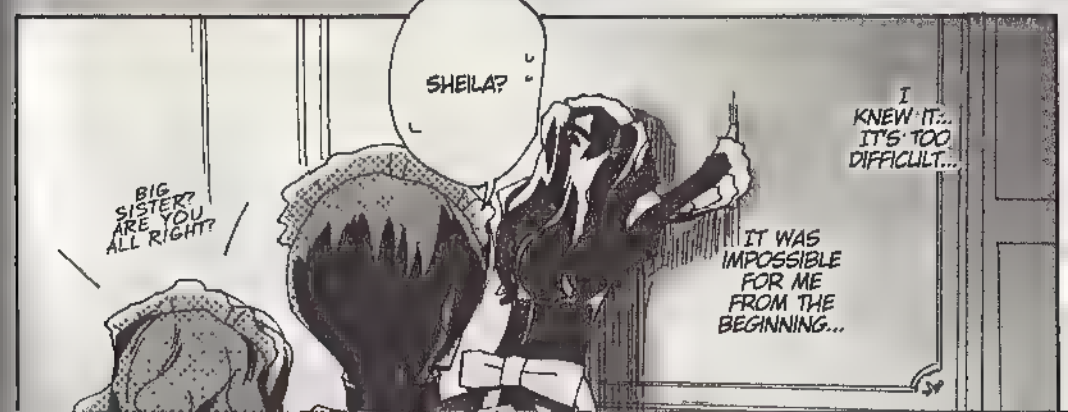

A LOT OF IMPORTANT GUESTS WILL BE THERE.
I KNOW, SO...
YOU'D BETTER LEARN HOW TO SMILE QUICKLY, SHEILA.
HEE HEE
DASH
GOOD LUCK ON YOUR QUEST!
THE TYRANNY!
YES!
(SUBORDINATE)
TEND TO PRINCE EDVARD!
HEY, YOU!!
THOSE TWO SHOULD BE IN THE OFFICE RIGHT AROUND THIS TIME...

WHAT IN THE WORLD JUST HAPPENED?
DASH
LILLEY DOESN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND, BUT LILLEY'S GLAD WE COULD HELP.
WAIT
WHAT...?
THANK YOU. YOU HELPED ME SOLVE MY PROBLEM!!
WELL, SEE YOU LATER!!

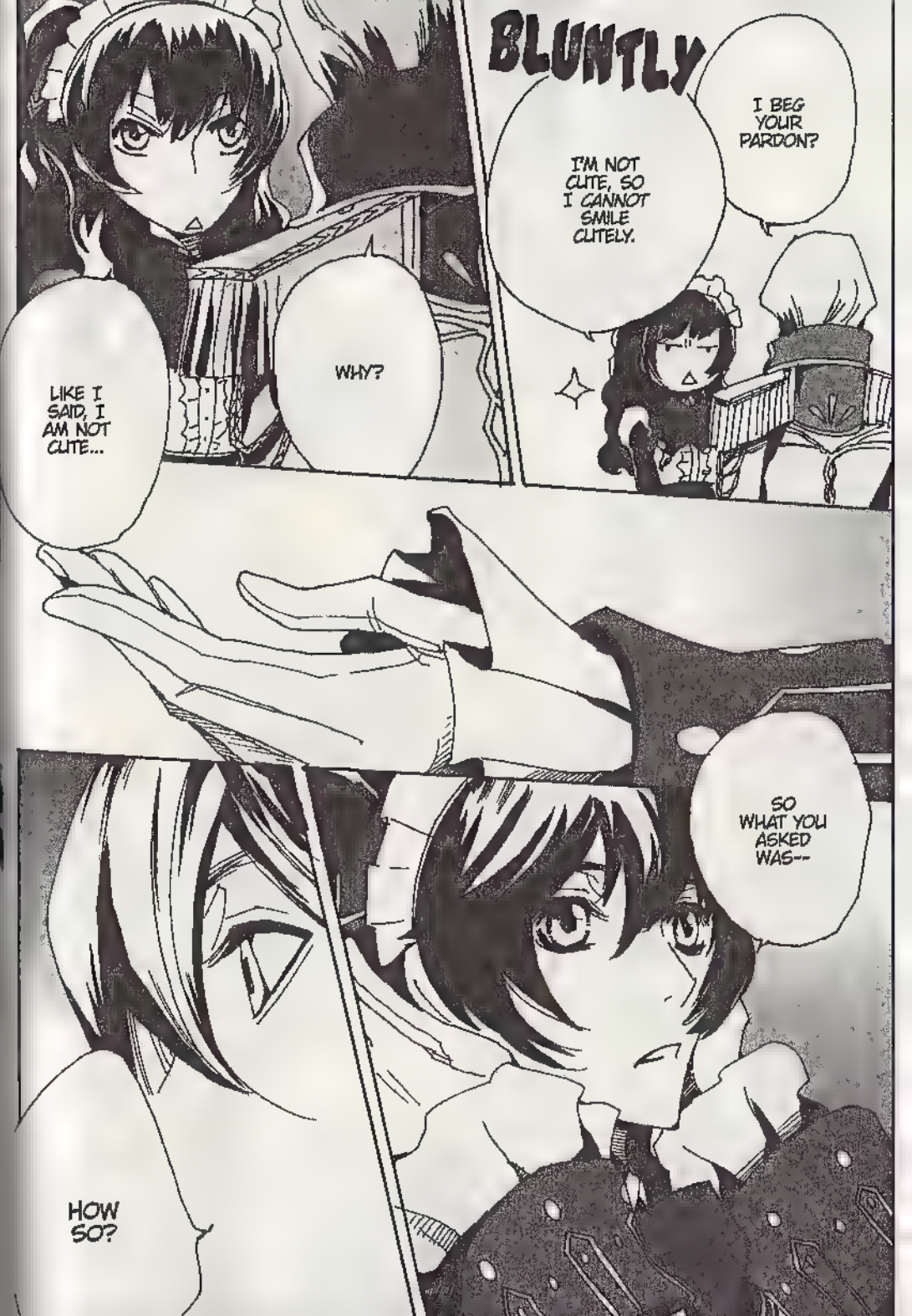

SMILE...
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
SPARKLE
BIG SISTER...


ZOOOOOM
B.AM
I CANNOT SMILE.
CLAK
YOUR HIGHNESS.
BACK ALREADY? THAT WAS FAST.


GASP
WHAT'S WRONG?
YOU CAN'T MAKE A SUDDEN, IMPOSSIBLE DEMAND, LIKE "SMILE CUTELY."
I COULD NEVER SMILE THAT CUTELY.
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE.
SO BRIGHT!
?

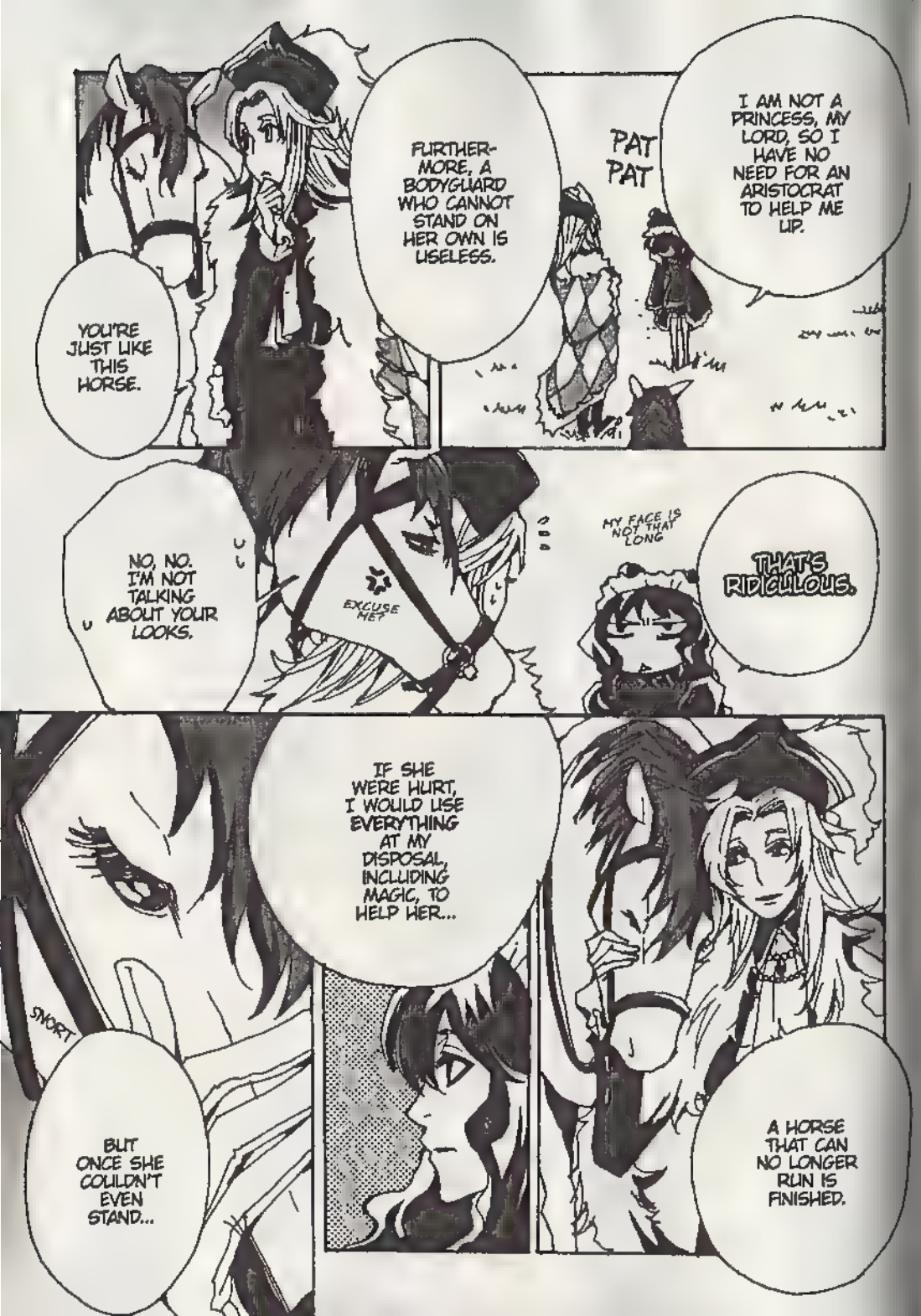

SHEILA?
BIG SISTER? ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
I KNEW IT... IT'S TOO DIFFICULT...
IT WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME FROM THE BEGINNING...

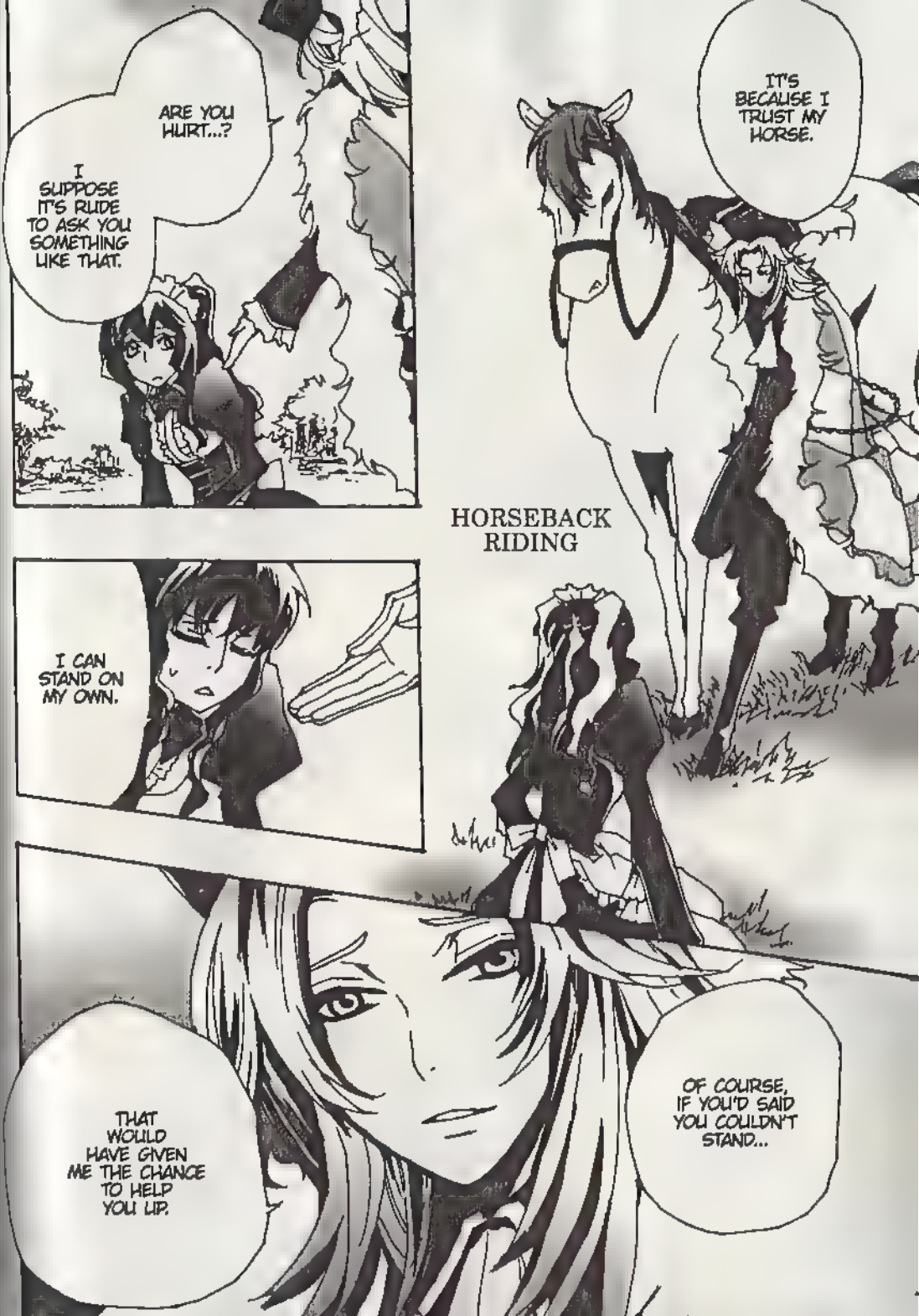
WHAT PART OF YOU IS NOT CUTE?
I SAID IT MYSELF
N... NOBODY.
I SEE.
C...CAN'T FORGIVE...?
I CANNOT FORGIVE THEM.
WHO WAS IT?
DID SOMEONE TELL YOU THAT?
HUH ...?

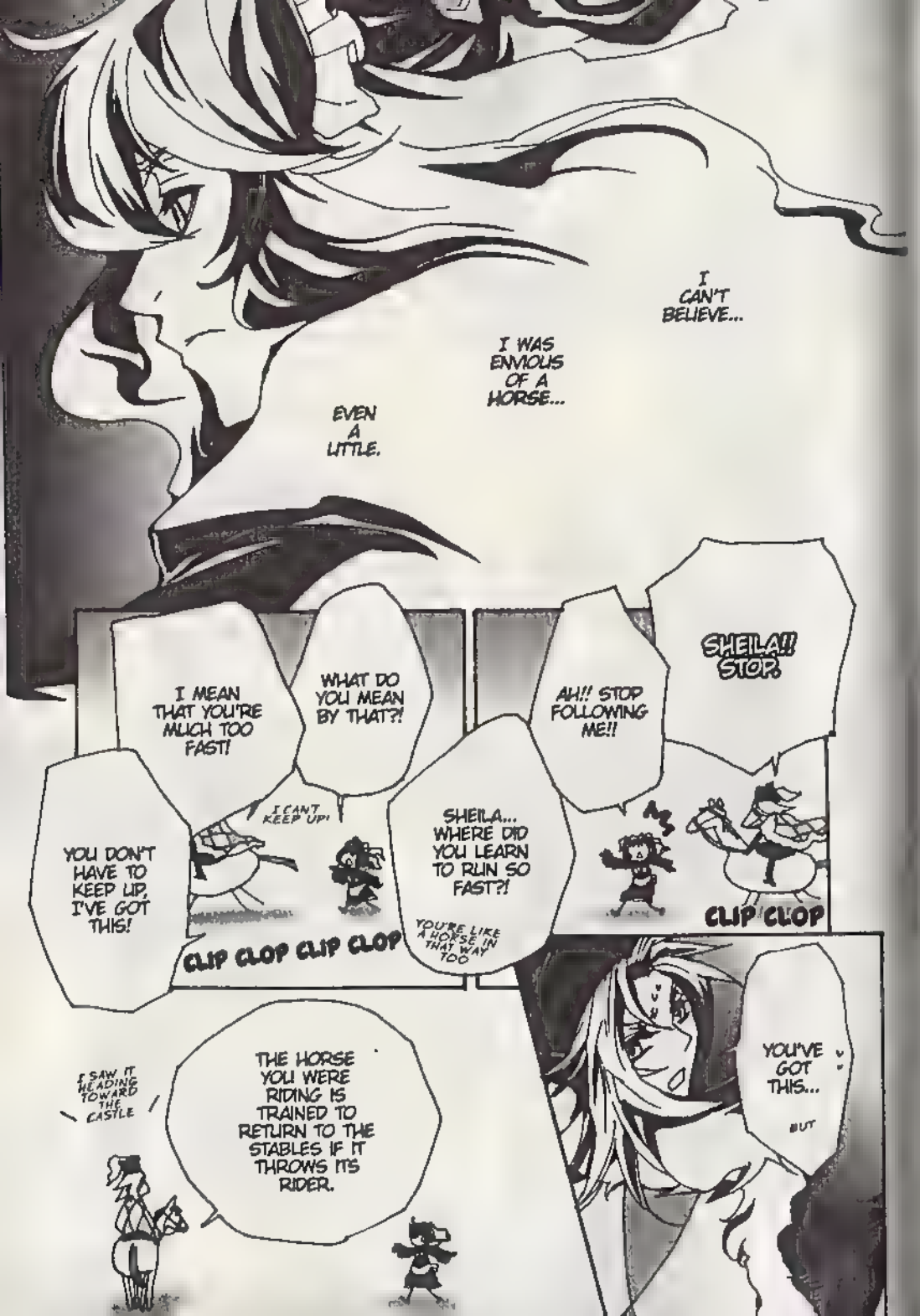

BLUNTLY
I BEG YOUR PARDON?
I'M NOT CUTE, SO I CANNOT SMILE CUTELY.
WHY?
LIKE I SAID, I AM NOT CUTE...
SO WHAT YOU ASKED WAS--
HOW SO?

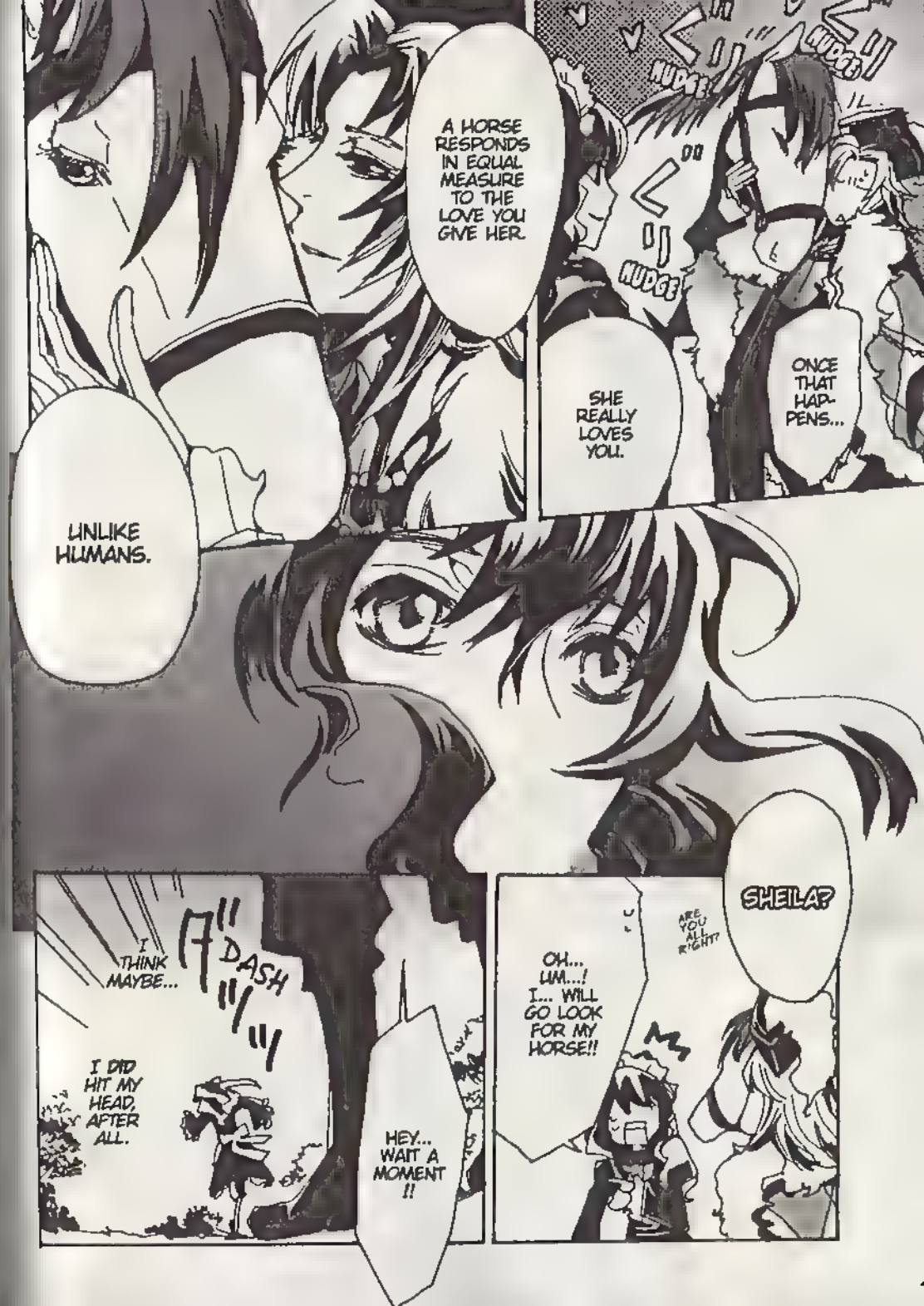
YOU MUST SERVE ME FOR THE REST OF YOUR LIFE.
THAT'S ALL?
UNDERSTOOD?
.....
YES.
WILL I BE PUNISHED FOR MY FAILURE?
THAT'S RIGHT.
AS YOUR PUNISHMENT...

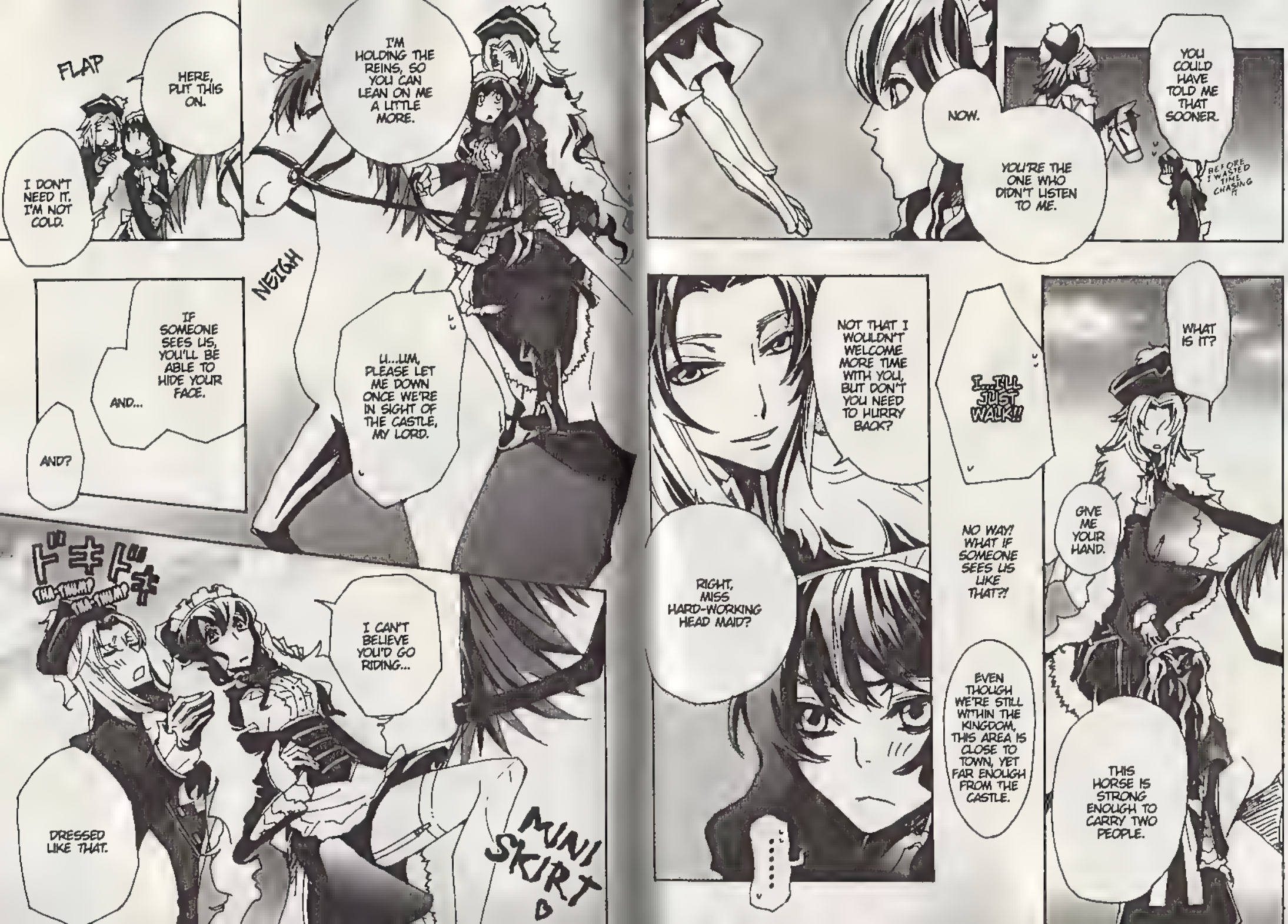
THUD
GALLOP GALLOP GALLOP GALLOP GALLOP GALLOP GALLOP
CLOP
YOU REALLY FALL FROM YOUR HORSE A LOT.
OUCH...
WAIT...
AND YOU NEVER FALL AT ALL.
THAT'S NOTHING I WASN'T ALREADY DOING.
OH, SO YOU CAN SMILE.
CHUCKLE
WHAAAAT?!
NO. I MUST HAVE IMAGINED IT.
YES.
TH-THEN... DOES THAT MEAN I SUCCEEDED?
FIN.
SHE DOESN'T GET IT AT ALL...
EH? ME? DID I JUST SMILE?


YOU'RE JUST LIKE THIS HORSE.
FURTHER-MORE, A BODYGUARD WHO CANNOT STAND ON HER OWN IS USELESS.
PAT PAT
I AM NOT A PRINCESS, MY LORD, SO I HAVE NO NEED FOR AN ARISTOCRAT TO HELP ME UP.
NO, NO. I'M NOT TALKING ABOUT YOUR LOOKS.
EXCUSE ME?
MY FACE IS NOT THAT LONG
THAT'S RIDICULOUS.
SNORT
BUT ONCE SHE COULDN'T EVEN STAND...
IF SHE WERE HURT, I WOULD USE EVERYTHING AT MY DISPOSAL, INCLUDING MAGIC, TO HELP HER...
A HORSE THAT CAN NO LONGER RUN IS FINISHED.

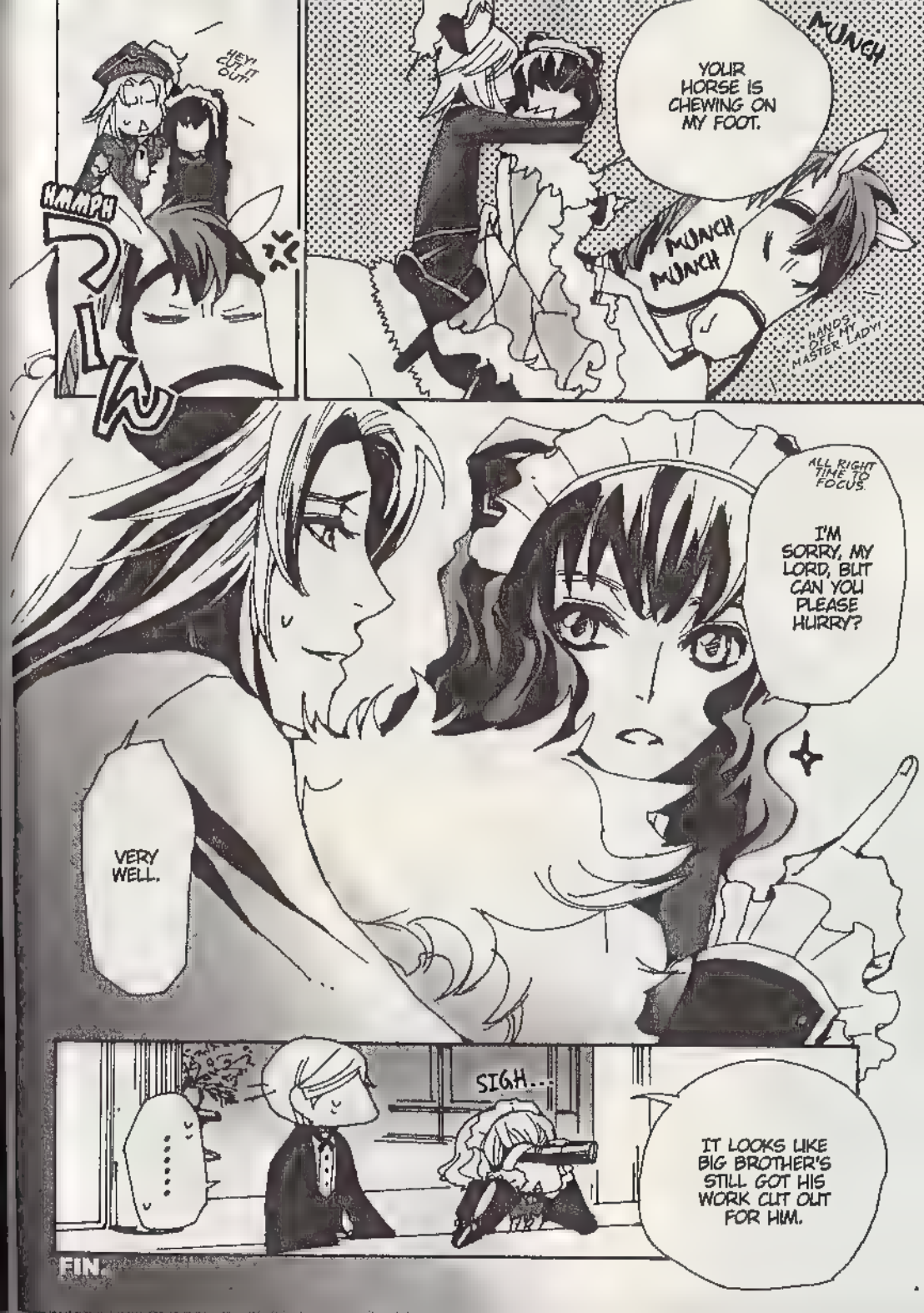

I SUPPOSE IT'S RUDE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
ARE YOU HURT...?
I CAN STAND ON MY OWN.
THAT WOULD HAVE GIVEN ME THE CHANCE TO HELP YOU UP.
OF COURSE, IF YOU'D SAID YOU COULDN'T STAND...
IT'S BECAUSE I TRUST MY HORSE.
HORSEBACK RIDING


I CAN'T BELIEVE...
I WAS ENVIOUS OF A HORSE...
EVEN A LITTLE.
I MEAN THAT YOU'RE MUCH TOO FAST!
WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?!
I CAN'T KEEP UP!
YOU DON'T HAVE TO KEEP UP, I'VE GOT THIS!
CLIP CLOP CLIP CLOP
SHEILA... WHERE DID YOU LEARN TO RUN SO FAST?!
YOU'RE LIKE A HORSE IN THAT WAY TOO
AH!! STOP FOLLOWING ME!!
SHEILA!! STOP.
CLIP CLOP
I SAW IT HEADING TOWARD THE CASTLE
THE HORSE YOU WERE RIDING IS TRAINED TO RETURN TO THE STABLES IF IT THROWS ITS RIDER.
YOU'VE GOT THIS...
BUT


A HORSE RESPONDS IN EQUAL MEASURE TO THE LOVE YOU GIVE HER.
UNLIKE HUMANS.
NUDGE
NUDGE
NUDGE
ONCE THAT HAPPENS...
SHE REALLY LOVES YOU.
I THINK MAYBE...
I DID HIT MY HEAD, AFTER ALL.
DASH!!
HEY... WAIT A MOMENT !!
SHEILA?
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
OH... UM...! I... WILL GO LOOK FOR MY HORSE!!


FLAP
HERE, PUT THIS ON.
I DON'T NEED IT. I'M NOT COLD.
I'M HOLDING THE REINS, SO YOU CAN LEAN ON ME A LITTLE MORE.
NEIGH
IF SOMEONE SEES US, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO HIDE YOUR FACE.
AND...
AND?
U...UM, PLEASE LET ME DOWN ONCE WE'RE IN SIGHT OF THE CASTLE, MY LORD.
ドキドキ
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D GO RIDING...
DRESSED LIKE THAT.
MINI SKIRT
YOU COULD HAVE TOLD ME THAT SOONER.
BEFORE I WASTED TIME CHASING IT
NOW.
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO DIDN'T LISTEN TO ME.
NOT THAT I WOULDN'T WELCOME MORE TIME WITH YOU, BUT DON'T YOU NEED TO HURRY BACK?
RIGHT, MISS HARD-WORKING HEAD MAID?
.....
I...I'LL JUST WALK!!
NO WAY! WHAT IF SOMEONE SEES US LIKE THAT?!
EVEN THOUGH WE'RE STILL WITHIN THE KINGDOM, THIS AREA IS CLOSE TO TOWN, YET FAR ENOUGH FROM THE CASTLE.
WHAT IS IT?
GIVE ME YOUR HAND.
THIS HORSE IS STRONG ENOUGH TO CARRY TWO PEOPLE.

WRAP
SO YOU SEE, THAT'S WHY...
I WANT TO HIDE YOU AWAY...
UM... LORD BRYON.
IT IS A VERY BIG DEAL!!
I'M ALWAYS SO WORRIED ABOUT THAT!
THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT!! WH...WHAT IF SOMEONE SEES?!
OH, IT'S NO BIG DEAL IF SOMEONE SEES.
LIKE I'VE TOLD YOU BEFORE, THEY'RE COMFORT-ABLE.
I ALWAYS RIDE USING THE TWO-POINT POSITION, SO THESE CLOTHES ARE CONVENIENT.
TWO-POINT POSITION
MUMBLE
MUMBLE
BUT THEN, I WOULDN'T EVEN BE ABLE TO DO MY WORK.
THAT'S SWEET BUT I'M NOT AT ALL PRACTICAL
I DON'T WANT ANYONE ELSE TO LAY EYES ON YOU!!
EVEN IF YOU DON'T MIND, I DO!!
ESPECIALLY DRESSED LIKE THAT!


HEY! CUT OUT!
HMMPH
MUNCH
YOUR HORSE IS CHEWING ON MY FOOT.
MUNCH MUNCH
HANDS OFF MY MASTER, LADY!
ALL RIGHT TIME TO FOCUS.
I'M SORRY, MY LORD, BUT CAN YOU PLEASE HURRY?
VERY WELL.
SIGH...
IT LOOKS LIKE BIG BROTHER'S STILL GOT HIS WORK CUT OUT FOR HIM.
FIN.

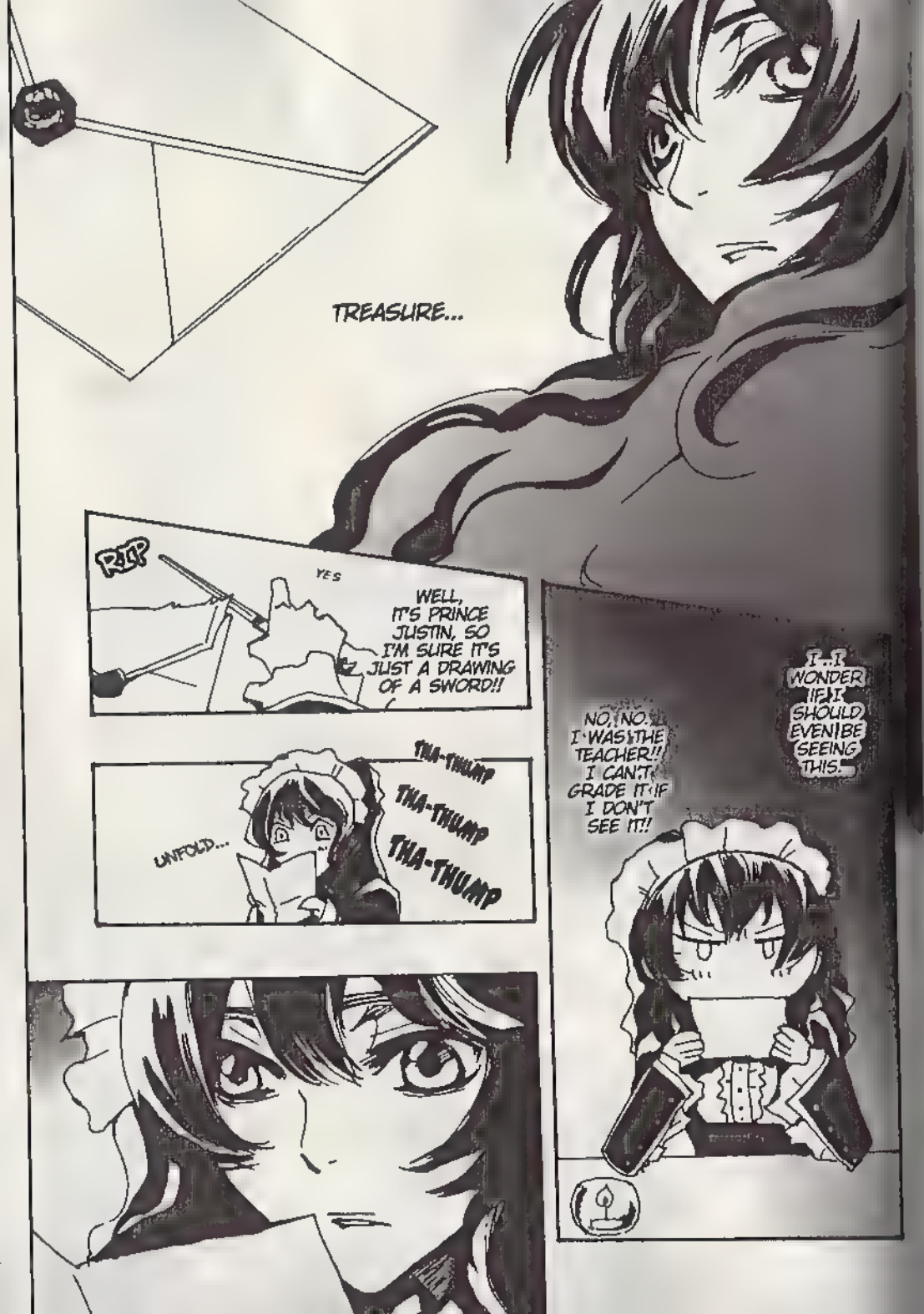
HOMEWORK
YOU'RE SLOW.
COME.

OKAY.
NOW, WHY DON'T WE PRACTICE DRAWING?
SO THE TEACHER HAD AN EMERGENCY AND WE'VE BEEN ASKED TO TAKE CARE OF THIS CLASS. NICE TO MEET YOU.
ORPHANAGE
HERE'S YOURS, BIG BROTHER.
YOU CAN WRITE A WORD IF YOU'D PREFER, BUT MAKE SURE NOT TO MISSPELL IT.
PLEASE DRAW YOUR MOST TREASURED THING.
HA HA... THAT'S RIGHT.
OOO... IF YOU DON'T FINISH, IT'S HOMEWORK FOR TOMORROW, RIGHT, TEACHER?
HEY, YOUR PAPER IS BLANK--!
SHUT UP!
YEAH, DRAW YOUR TREASURE! YOU GOTTA, BIG BROTHER !!
YEAH. YOU'RE PART OF THE CLASS!!
CRAYONS
YOU WANT ME TO DRAW AS WELL...?

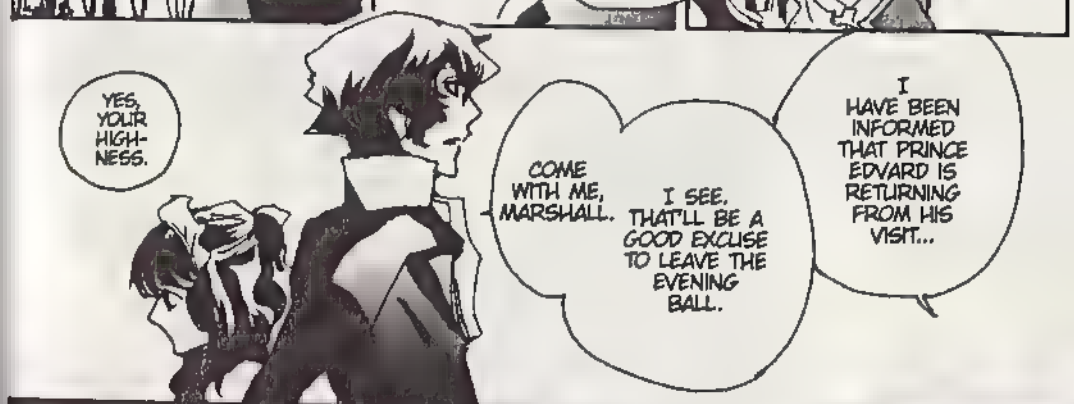
AS I HAVE TOLD YOU MANY TIMES, I AM PRINCE EDVARD'S MAID, SO MEETING YOU PUBLICLY--
TAKE THIS.
PRESENT
HAA... I'M SORRY.
I THOUGHT IT WOULD BE A PROBLEM IF I FOLLOWED YOU TOO CLOSELY, SO I WAITED.

NO, I DISLIKE STUDYING.
I DON'T WANT TO DO ANYTHING BEYOND THE BARE MINIMUM
YOU'RE THE ONE WHO GAVE IT TO ME!!

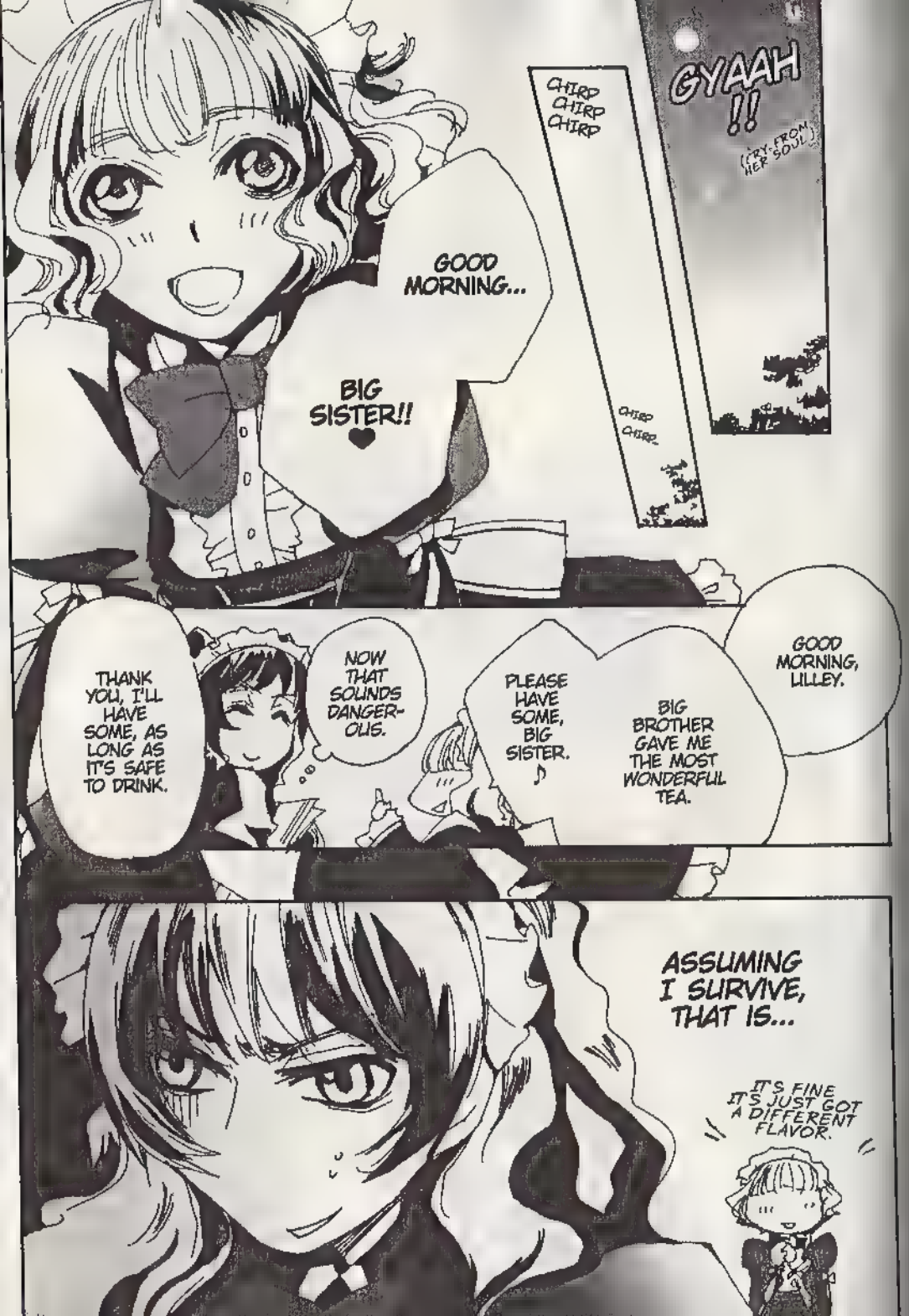
IT'S HOMEWORK.
A LETTER...?
IF IT IS A CHALLENGE, I REFUSE.


TREASURE...
RIP
YES
WELL, IT'S PRINCE JUSTIN, SO I'M SURE IT'S JUST A DRAWING OF A SWORD!!
UNFOLD...
THA-THUMP
THA-THUMP
THA-THUMP
NO, NO. I WAS THE TEACHER!! I CAN'T GRADE IT IF I DON'T SEE IT!!
I..I WONDER IF I SHOULD EVEN BE SEEING THIS...

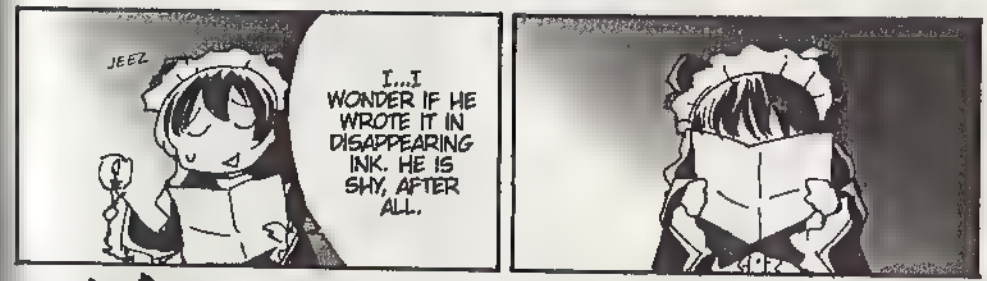
EXCUSE ME.
OR IS HE JUST STUPID...
WHAT? I DIDN'T HAVE TO DO IT?
Y...YOU ACTUALLY DID IT...?
IS HE REALLY THAT SERIOUS ...?
AND YOU EVEN HANDED IT IN


YES, YOUR HIGH-NESS.
COME WITH ME, MARSHALL.
I SEE. THAT'LL BE A GOOD EXCUSE TO LEAVE THE EVENING BALL.
I HAVE BEEN INFORMED THAT PRINCE EDVARD IS RETURNING FROM HIS VISIT...

MY MASTER SPENT A VERY LONG TIME WORKING ON THAT PAPER BEFORE HE FINALLY PUT IT INTO THE ENVELOPE.


GOOD MORNING...
BIG SISTER!!
CHIRP CHIRP CHIRP
CHIRP CHIRP
GYAAH !!
((CRY FROM HER SOUL))
GOOD MORNING, LILLEY.
BIG BROTHER GAVE ME THE MOST WONDERFUL TEA.
PLEASE HAVE SOME, BIG SISTER. ♪
NOW THAT SOUNDS DANGER-OUS.
THANK YOU, I'LL HAVE SOME, AS LONG AS IT'S SAFE TO DRINK.
ASSUMING I SURVIVE, THAT IS...
IT'S FINE IT'S JUST GOT A DIFFERENT FLAVOR.

BLANK

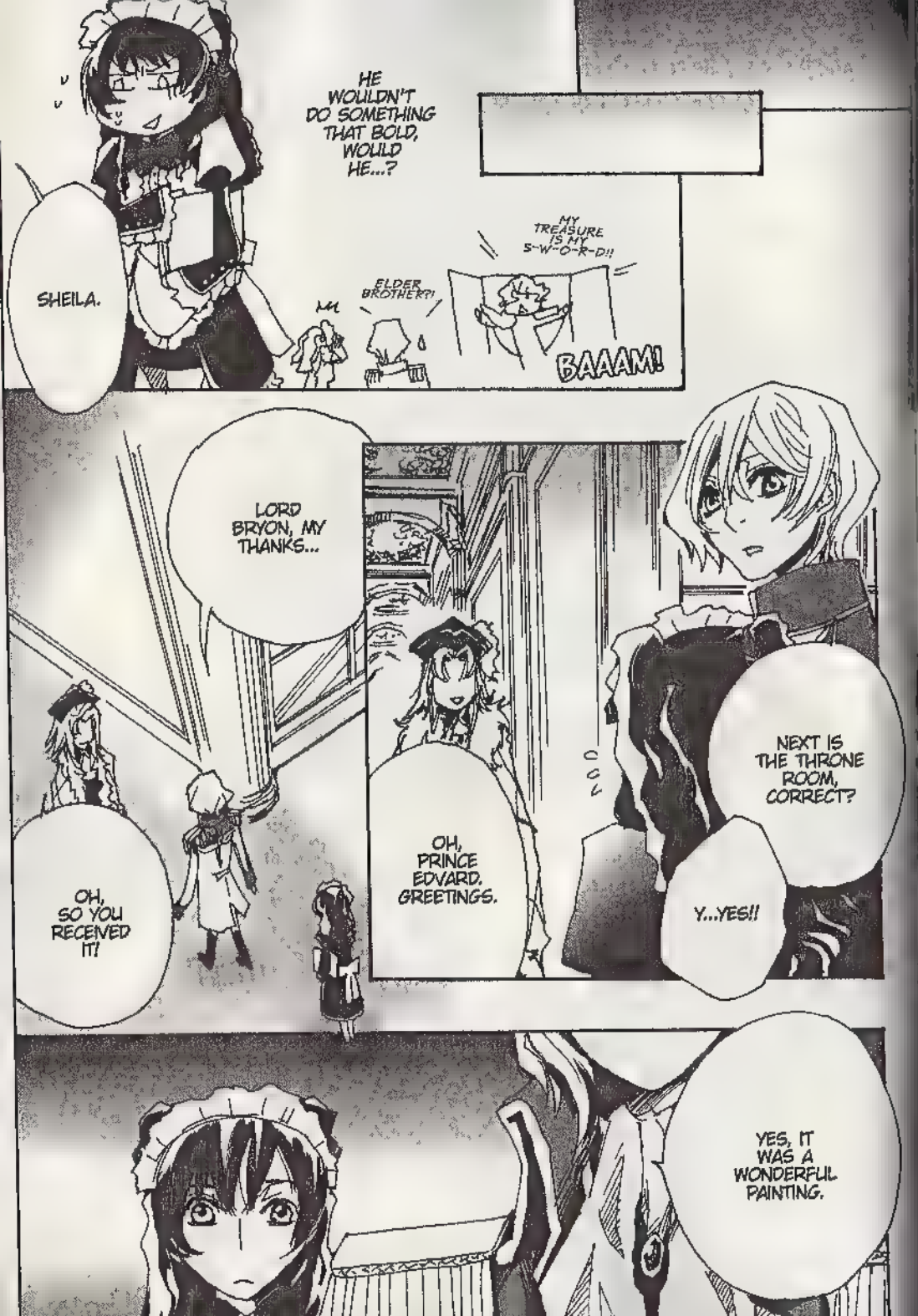

JEEZ
I...I WONDER IF HE WROTE IT IN DISAPPEARING INK. HE IS SHY, AFTER ALL..

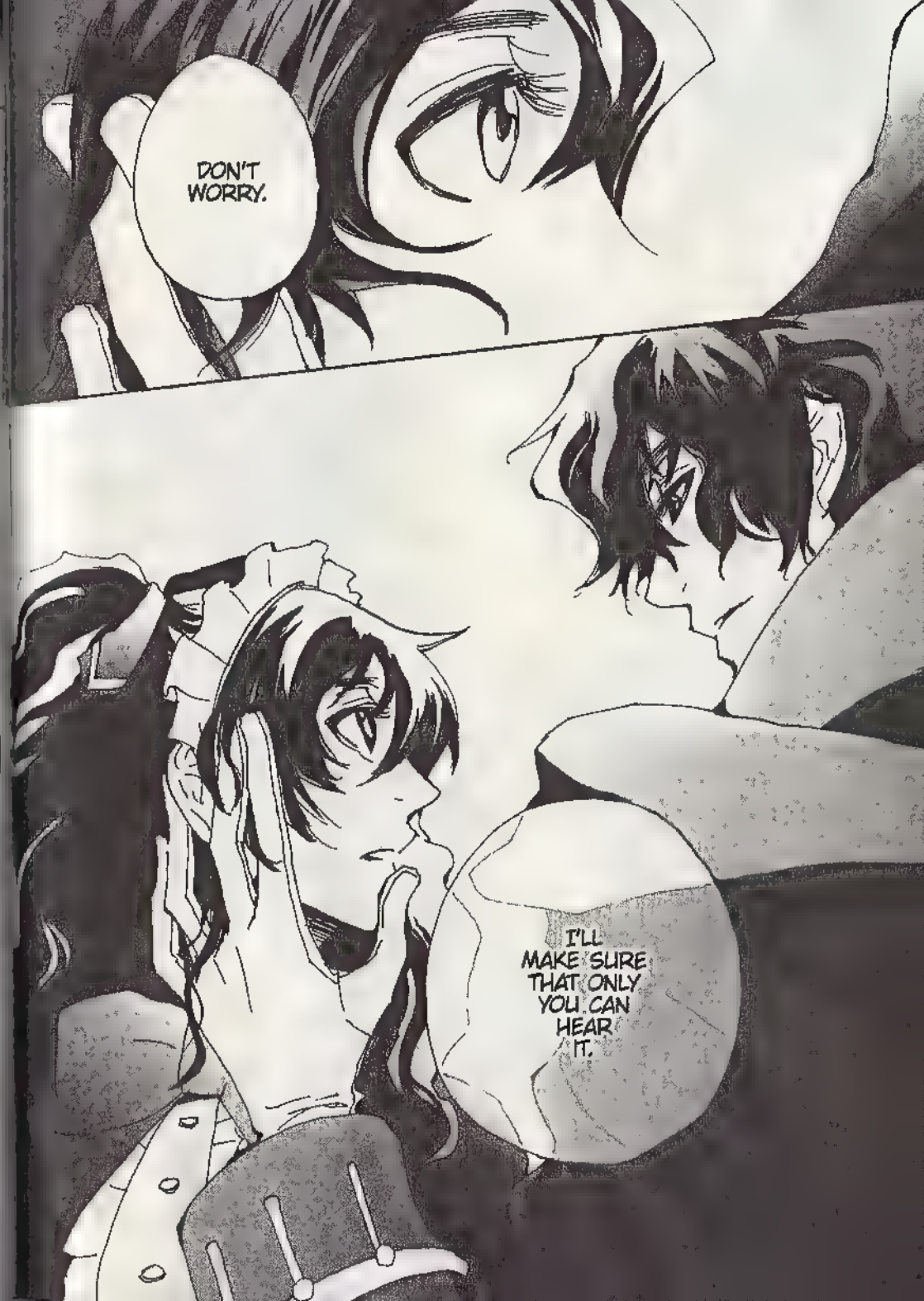
CLASSIC SHEILA
FROOOSH
YEAH.
I...I'LL LEAVE SHORTLY. GOOD WORK TODAY.
YOU'RE STILL HERE, SHEILA? WEREN'T YOU ON EARLY SHIFT TODAY?
!!

TRUDGE TRUDGE
I...I MIGHT BE EXECUTED, AFTER ALL...
AND I CAN'T THINK OF ANYTHING THAT'LL SAVE ME.
THEN AGAIN, IT SOUNDED LIKE HE SPENT A LOT OF TIME ON IT...
I DON'T THINK I'D BE EXECUTED FOR SOMETHING LIKE THAT...!
STOP
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I KNOW THIS PRESENCE...
HEY.
TURN
SWEAT
SWEAT
SWEAT
BY THE WAY... DID YOU LOOK AT YESTERDAY'S HOMEWORK?
DON'T BRING IT UP. DON'T BRING IT UP--!
HAA.
TURN
A...ARE YOU GOING OUT?
IN THE AFTER-NOON.
I'M GOING PUBLICLY, SO I'LL HAVE SOMEONE ELSE COME WITH ME.
SO MUCH FOR MY MENTAL POWERS.
A...
ABOUT THAT...
I'M... DEAD.
I'M SURE YOU WERE TAKEN ABACK BY IT.
I REGRET IT AS WELL.
HE... HE'S REALLY SERIOUS ABOUT THIS?
A... AND TO THINK I...
UM... I...!

BAM
I'LL LOOK UP THE SPELLING AND THEN TURN IT IN. RETURN THAT PAPER TO ME.
I HAVE TO WRITE IT PERFECTLY!!
I REFUSE TO BE OUT-DONE BY A ROOMFUL OF CHILDREN
NONSENSE!! IT'S MY "TREASURE," ISN'T IT?
THE SPELLING...
JUST GUESS
A WORD THAT THE FIRST PRINCE, WHO IS SO HIGHLY EDUCATED, CANNOT SPELL...!?
FINE, THEN I'LL JUST TELL YOU.
HAH?!
IT'LL BE FINE.
SHIP...
WH...WHAT WILL BE FINE?! IF WE'RE OVERHEARD...
BUT I CAN'T TELL YOU I BURNED THE PAPER!
SO TIMID, AFTER HAVING BEEN SO FIERCE...! TOO CUTE!!
S...SORRY, BUT I HAVE TO ACCOMPANY PRINCE EDVARD TODAY...
I HAVE NO TIME TO EXCHANGE DOCUMENTS WITH YOU.
TH... THAT PAPER~?!
U... UMMM...
YOU CAN'T?

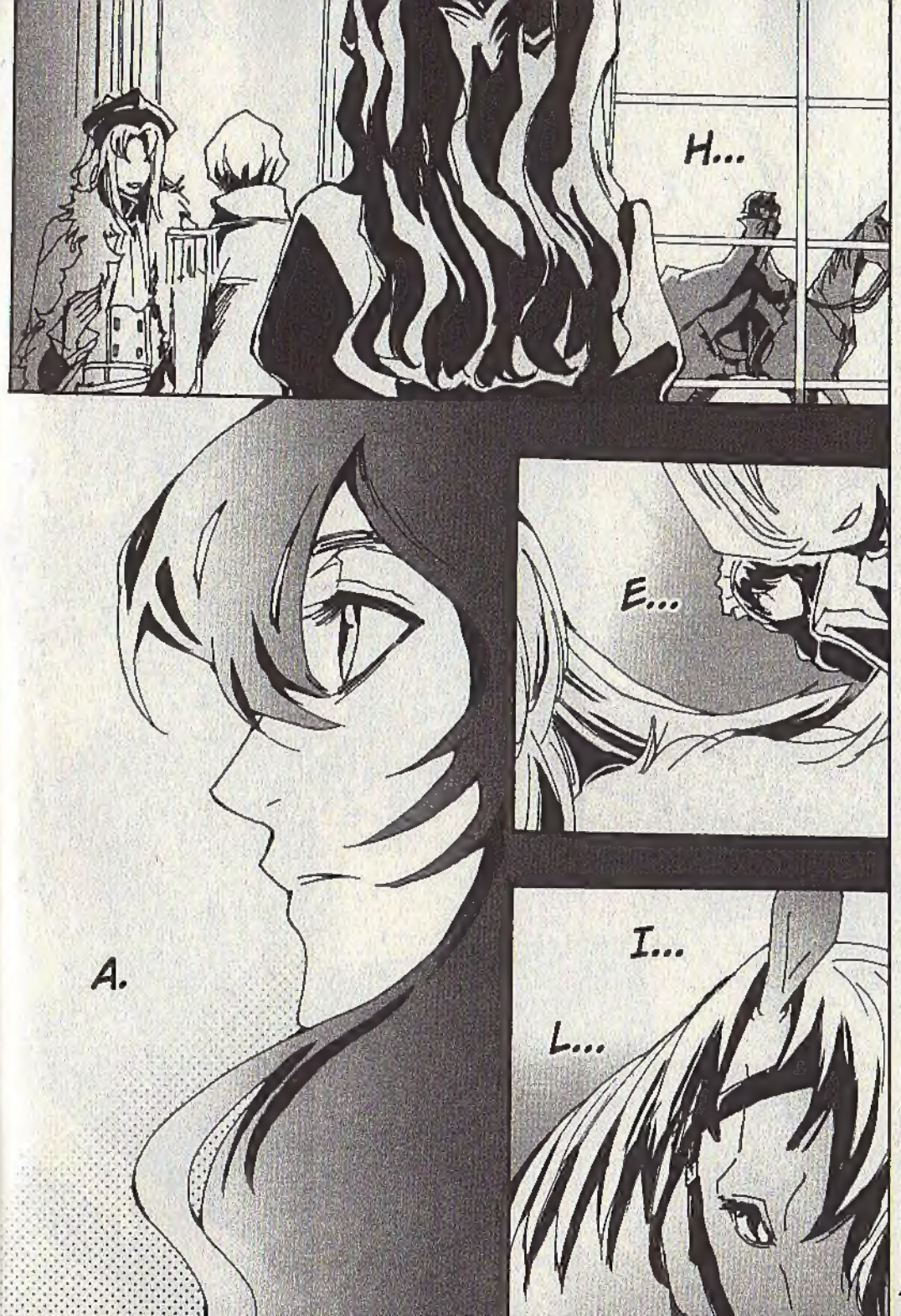
I COULDN'T DRAW ANYTHING.
BURNED...
HUH?
I HAVE NO SKILLS IN ART.
AND I COULDN'T JUST WRITE THE WORD BECAUSE I WASN'T CERTAIN OF THE SPELLING.
BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO MISS THE DEADLINE, SO I TURNED IN A BLANK SHEET.
IT WAS UNWORTHY OF ME...


SHEILA.
HE WOULDN'T DO SOMETHING THAT BOLD, WOULD HE...?
ELDER BROTHER?!
MY TREASURE IS MY S-W-O-R-D!!
BAAAM!
LORD BRYON, MY THANKS...
OH, SO YOU RECEIVED IT!
OH, PRINCE EDVARD, GREETINGS.
NEXT IS THE THRONE ROOM, CORRECT?
Y...YES!!
YES, IT WAS A WONDERFUL PAINTING.


DON'T WORRY.
I'LL MAKE SURE THAT ONLY YOU CAN HEAR IT.

S...
!!
I CAN'T REACT.
THEY WILL NOTICE.
WAIT A SECOND!! PRINCE EDVARD IS HERE RIGHT NOW...?!
ALTHOUGH YOU CAN'T SEE HIM FROM OVER THERE!
H...HE ISN'T GOING TO SHOUT IT, IS HE?!

WAS THAT RIGHT?
WAIT... WHAAAT?!
かBLUUUUUSHあぁ
BUT THAT IS MY TREASURE.
UNFORTUNATELY, IT'S STILL NOT COMPLETELY MINE.


H...
E...
A.
I...
L...

QuinRoseBox

HOW CLEVER OF HIM...
ALTHOUGH THERE ARE A LOT OF OTHER GUARDS WHO CAN READ LIPS BETTER THAN ME...
OH, SHALL I PREPARE YOU A SPECIAL CAPELLA MEDICINE?
N...NO, IT'S JUST A LITTLE WARM.
SHEILA? YOUR FACE IS RED-- DO YOU HAVE A FEVER?
NO, THANK YOU.

Sheila

I... I WON-DER...
IT WAS THE SPELLING OF YOUR NAME.
I WAS SURPRISED.
WHY WOULD HE NEED THAT?
THIS MORNING, MASTER JUSTIN ASKED ME A QUESTION OUT OF THE BLUE.

FIN.

I DEEPLY APPRECIATE QUINROSE AND EVERYONE WHO PICKED UP THIS BOOK.

MANY THANKS!

QuinRoseBox

QUINROSE BOX